

Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán  
Facultad de Ciencias Antropológicas  
Centro de Información Científica  
"Dr. Alfredo Barrera Vásquez"

# The New Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs

VOLUME ONE

The Civilization of the American Indian Series

Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán  
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# The New Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs

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VOLUME ONE

*The Classic Period Inscriptions*

Martha J. Macri  
Matthew G. Looper  
Grapheme drawings by Matthew G. Looper



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## PIEDRAS LABRADAS

Perdidos en la jungla  
varios milenios  
de historia,  
y olvidados por el hombre  
brillantes milenios  
de victoria.  
Los Mayas y los glifos,  
uno sólo  
como padres e hijos  
midiendo el presente  
en los ojos bobachones  
del turista  
que junto a la estela  
manosea en Tikal  
un glifo redondo  
que a los curiosos  
enseña los dientes  
como diciendo:  
"Después de dos mil años,  
caminante,  
aquí seguimos de pie  
vigilantes  
entre las sedas  
de las telarañas  
del tiempo."

Victor Montejo

Translated by Victor Perera, from *Sculpted Stones*, by Victor Montejo (Curbstone Press 1995). Reprinted with the permission of Curbstone Press. Distributed by Consortium.

## SCULPTED STONES

Lost in the jungle—  
several millennia  
of history,  
and forgotten by men—  
shining millennia  
of victory.  
The Maya and their glyphs  
stand as one  
like fathers and sons  
measuring the present  
in the easy-going eyes  
of the tourist  
who stands by a stele  
in Tikal stroking  
a round glyph  
which bares its teeth  
to the onlookers  
as if saying:  
"After two thousand years,  
traveler,  
we're still on our feet  
vigilant  
among the silken  
cobwebs  
of time."

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## Acknowledgments

This volume is a reference summary of research by hundreds of students of the Maya script. It owes its existence, first of all, to the Maya artists and scholars who created the script and to those who for hundreds of years used the script to record their history and culture. We have tried to give an accurate account of their achievement. Ultimately it is their world we seek to understand.

This study is absolutely dependent upon the photographers and artists who recorded the texts from which this research is drawn, those who have risked comfort and often safety to make visible the carvings that time and weather have done their best to erase. This list includes hundreds of field-workers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, from Alfred Maudslay, transporting box camera and molds on muleback through the jungle, to Ruth Krochock, chasing wasps away from a text on the Temple of the Four Lintels at Chichén Itzá. Each of them has his or her own stories to tell. Many scholars have brought the field of Maya epigraphy to its current state. The reader will find their names in the reference sections for each of the signs. Decipherment of the script is not complete, but the field has reached a state of maturity in which arguments about gross identifications are being replaced by discussions concerning finer points of textual analysis.

The idea of a completely new way of organizing a sign list was originally conceived by Martha Macri in 1982. At that time she considered various taxonomies, first grouping main signs of J. Eric S. Thompson's *A Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs* (1962) according to their graphic form. Since then this classification of Maya graphemes (the smallest distinctive elements), first applied to the Maya script by Yuri V. Knorozov (1963), has progressed through various incarnations, resulting in the current volume. During the course of the Maya Hieroglyphic Database Project, several research assistants have made valuable contributions to the categorization of signs and to the collection of bibliographical references. Michael Evans, James Brooks, and Circe Sturm were present at the beginning of the project for early attempts at categorization of graphemes by form. James Brooks worked with Macri for several years refining the subcategories and coding the inscriptions of Palenque as a test of the system. Barbara MacLeod and Ruth Krochock helped with differentiating graphemes that Thompson had grouped together and pointed out new readings. Thomas Tolles and Sydnee Lippman assisted with scanning and preparing the images. Heidi Altman and Sarah Shuler edited and reviewed an earlier version of this catalog.

In 1996 Looper joined the Maya Hieroglyphic Database Project. His co-authorship of the *New Catalog* includes the addition of those signs discovered since Thompson's *Catalog*, a reexamination of referenced literature, refinement of the classification system, contribution of additional references, and new drawings of each grapheme. More recently, Gabrielle Vail, co-principal investigator with Macri on the codical texts, has contributed valuable observations on the relationships between certain signs occurring in both the Classic

monumental texts and the Maya codices. Macri and Vail are currently preparing a companion volume containing graphemes from the screenfold books.

The authors intend that this grapheme list will serve as a resource for scholars and students of the Maya script. We have attempted to present accurately the combined knowledge of the most reliable scholars in Maya epigraphy. We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to all who have contributed to the enterprise of recovering this unique script, lost as a result of the European conquest of the Maya region. We would like to thank Janis Indrikis and Donald Hales for making available to us a photocopy of Eric Thompson's gray cards used in the compilation of Thompson (1962).

The research for this volume has been made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities, grants RT 21365-92, RT21608-94, and PA22844-96; the National Science Foundation, grants SBR-9710961 and BCS-9905357; and the Native American Language Center, Department of Native American Studies, University of California, Davis.

# The New Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs

VOLUME ONE

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## Introduction

### THE MAYA SCRIPT

This work is the first of two volumes describing the graphemes (the distinctive signs) of the Maya script. The present volume contains the graphemes found in texts from the Classic period, approximately 150–900 C.E. The principal media include carved stone monuments, stucco wall panels, wooden lintels, carved and painted pottery, murals, and small objects of jadeite, shell, bone, and wood. No bark paper books are known to survive from this period, although they are mentioned in hieroglyphic texts and depicted in scenes on pottery. The second volume of the *New Catalog* (in preparation) describes the graphemes found in the four Maya codices. These Maya books date from later periods and represent graphic and linguistic styles that differ from the script of the Classic period.

This two-volume catalog is an integral component of the Maya Hieroglyphic Database, expected to be available on-line by 2004. The catalog is only a sign list. The database itself must be consulted for the transcription and coding of the texts. The database can also be used to generate concordances of signs, words, and phrases in the texts and to sort these lists by period, site, region, or any of the coded information. For example, it can be used to show the earliest and latest dated examples of a particular sign; or it can generate a list of signs ordered by the dates of the texts, showing possible changes in the form and usage of a grapheme over time. The list can also be ordered by region, showing the spatial distribution of a sign.

Some of the signs listed in the *New Catalog* signify words. Others represent syllables that make no reference to meaning but can be combined with other signs to spell words. Consequently, the only words listed here are those represented by a single sign. Words spelled with multiple signs can be found in the database by searching in one or more of the coded fields (transcription, Mayan gloss, English, semantic domain, grapheme codes, etc.). A full accounting of all words known from the Maya texts will be generated from the Maya Hieroglyphic Database and published in a lexicon (now in preparation). In sum, this catalog is not intended as a comprehensive accounting of the Maya writing system, since it does not treat segments of the script larger than the individual grapheme. Issues of morphology and syntax are more properly included in a discussion of full texts. Even the topic of spelling conventions is here dealt with only in a cursory manner. Our goals are to present all known signs that occur in the script, to arrange them in a logical fashion, to summarize earlier scholars' research, and to identify readings for which there is general acceptance among epigraphers.

We expect that this volume will be of most interest to those who are trying to learn about the Maya script. We also hope that our colleagues in Maya studies will find this compendium a useful tool. We have tried to make this catalog as free from unnecessary jargon as possible and thus accessible to a wide audience, including those who study visual images and semiotics from other iconographic and script traditions.

### The History of Maya Writing

Writing has a long history in Mesoamerica, beginning at least as early as the Middle Formative period (1000–400 B.C.E.). Owing to variable climatic conditions, the only texts to survive from this early period appear on carved monuments or incised portable jade objects, although manuscript forms must have preceded these. Early examples of pictorial images arranged in sequential patterns suggest that Mesoamerican scripts originated from pictographic notation (Justeson 1986). John Justeson and Peter Mathews (1990) suggest that the Maya system was adapted directly from the iconography of early jade celts. In our view, however, it seems more likely that the earliest examples of iconography and writing were recorded on perishable material, of which no examples have survived. Given the time depth of Mesoamerica as a cultural and linguistic area (Campbell and Kaufman 1976; Campbell et al. 1986; Kirchhoff 1943), the process of development from pictographs to word-signs probably occurred within a multiethnic milieu, rather than being the product of a single culture or speech community.

Olmec-style carvings of the Early and Middle Formative periods are characterized by a complex iconographic system (Joralemon 1971, 1976). Many researchers believe that writing developed from the iconography of Olmec style relief sculpture (Prem 1971, 1973). There is, however, little evidence for a script among the peoples practicing the Olmec style. La Venta Monument 13 is sometimes cited as an example of a script on an Olmec-style monument (figure 1; Joralemon 1971). Here an image of a footprint is carved on one side of a profile figure and a vertical column of three isolated signs on the other. In the words of Jacques Soustelle (1984:169), “it is difficult to reject the evidence that these four signs belong to a system of writing.” Nevertheless, given the lack of any other examples, the case for writing within the Olmec sphere remains inconclusive.

A stronger argument can be made for the existence of early forms of writing during the Late Formative period (400 B.C.E.–150 C.E.). According to some archaeologists, Zapotec peoples of Oaxaca developed the earliest Mesoamerican writing system, which first appears at San José Mogote during the Rosario phase, about 700–500 B.C.E. (Flannery and Marcus 1983:55). Elaborated during the Late Formative period, Zapotec inscriptions consist of references to dates in the 260-day calendar, while later texts take the form of brief clauses, including names, dates, and events (Marcus 1983). A second early script, called variously the Epi-Olmec, La Mojarra, Tuxtla, or Isthmian script, also appears in the Late Formative period. It is known from four artifacts from the Gulf Coast and the Grijalva River drainage: La Mojarra Stela 1, the Tuxtla Statuette, a sherd from Chiapa de Corzo, and an inscribed mask (Justeson and Kaufman 1993; Macri and Stark 1993; Méluzin 1995). It also may have been recorded on early monuments from Tres Zapotes and other sites in the Veracruz region. The texts are believed to represent a language in the Mixe-Zoquean family (Justeson et al. 1985; Justeson and Kaufman 1993; Lowe 1977). The examples of the Epi-Olmec script are much longer than any earlier texts. The Tuxtla Statuette is inscribed with seventy glyphs and records a date of 162 C.E., while La Mojarra Stela 1 is one of the longest Mesoamerican inscriptions known, having over five hundred glyphs. It features two long count dates—counts of days from the beginning of the current era—equivalent to 143 and 156 C.E.

The Maya script described in this volume appears simultaneously with the Zapotec script, during the Late Formative period. By about 400 B.C.E., at the same time that an elaborate Maya iconographic system was being developed in the northern Maya lowlands, the Guatemalan highlands, and the Pacific piedmont, early monumental texts make their debut. An example is El Portón Monument 1, excavated at a site in the Samala valley and dated to about 400 B.C.E. (Sharer and Sedat 1987:89). Other early monumental inscriptions occur at the Pacific piedmont site of Abaj Takalik. Abaj Takalik Stela 2 features a long count date in the eighth b'ak'tun (354 B.C.E.–41 C.E.), while Stela 5 has two dates in the early ninth b'ak'tun, the latter of which corresponds to 126 C.E. (Graham et al. 1978:103–4). Archaeologists still do not agree on the language

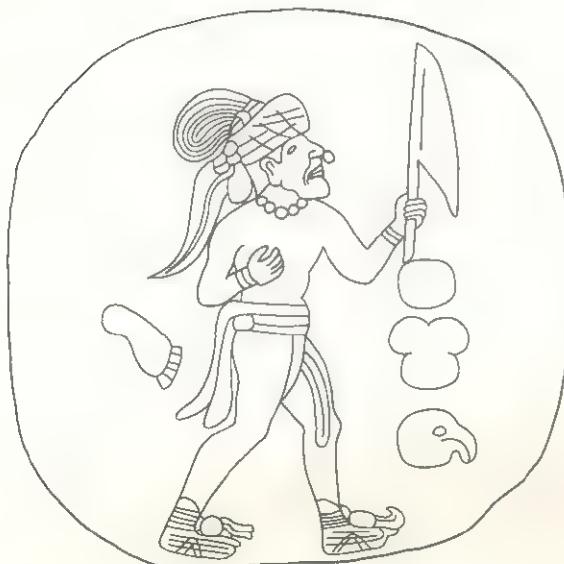


Fig. 1. La Venta Monument 13.

spoken by the creators of these texts. While it is possible that monuments from at least some sites, such as Abaj Takalik, record a Mayan language (Stuart 1995:19), other scholars have suggested the presence of Mixe-Zoquean languages on the Pacific slope (Justeson et al. 1985; Kaufman 1976).

In the northern Maya lowlands, one of the earliest inscribed Maya monuments, El Mirador Stela 2, dates to the Late Formative period, estimated at 300 B.C.E.–150 C.E. (Hansen 1991). Such widely scattered monumental inscriptions during this period suggest the intellectual ferment and widespread interethnic contacts that fostered the development of the Maya script. Further, while the historical relationship of the Maya script to the Epi-Olmec and Zapotec scripts is not well understood, these early examples suggest that a linear developmental sequence, with Zapotec as the mother script, is not justified. Certain distinct correspondences between Epi-Olmec and Maya systems, such as long count notation, imply a close historical relationship (see also Justeson 1986; Justeson et al. 1985). The incised text on the Late Formative Kaminaljuyú Monument 10 includes signs with similarities to both Maya and Epi-Olmec scripts (figure 2; Macri 1991b). While it is possible that both of these scripts derive from a single proto-script (Justeson 1986), or that one derives from the other, it may be that all three systems developed simultaneously in the context of intercultural exchange through diplomatic and trade networks (see Stuart 1995:17).

The Maya script endured far longer than any other system. In fact, it was still being used in northern Yucatán in the sixteenth century. Colonial Spanish authorities actively suppressed it, however, so that by the eighteenth century there is no record of its use. Its geographic range encompassed the Petén region of Guatemala, all of Belize, the Yucatán Peninsula, and parts of Chiapas, El Salvador, and Honduras. Among Mesoamerican scripts, the Maya system has by far the largest corpus, is the most successfully deciphered, and most precisely records the sound of spoken language. Table 1 outlines the basic development of the Maya script during key chronological periods.

### The Languages of the Maya Script

Over thirty Mayan languages either are spoken by contemporary Maya people or are known from colonial documentation (figure 3). Terrence Kaufman (1976:106) estimates that proto-Mayan, the ancestor of these languages, was spoken in the Cuchumatán highlands of western Guatemala as early as 2200 B.C.E. Historical



Fig. 2. Kaminaljuyú Monument 10. Drawing by Federico Fahsen.

linguistics shows that the two families that have proven most relevant to the decipherment of the hieroglyphic texts, Yukatekan and Ch'olan, belong to two distinct subgroups. The Yukatekan subgroup is believed to have been one of the earliest to separate from the proto-Mayan core. Yukatekan languages, which include contemporary Yukatek, Mopan, Itzaj, and Lakantun, are quite similar to one another and constitute a single family. Ch'olan languages (Ch'ol, Ch'orti', Ch'olti', and Chontal) are a separate branch of the Mayan family and are closely related to Tzeltal and Tzotzil of the Chiapas highlands and somewhat more distantly related to the Q'anjob'alan languages of Chiapas and western Guatemala. During several periods of intense interaction, Ch'olan languages borrowed significant grammatical features from Yukatekan, including some person markers and many lexical items. Likewise, Yukatekan has been influenced by Ch'olan languages, although to a lesser degree. Because Ch'olan languages are closely related to Tzeltal and Tzotzil, it is possible to distinguish features that are genetically inherited (shared with Tzeltal and Tzotzil) from those that have been borrowed from Yukatekan or that result from innovation.

The linguistic features that are most relevant to understanding the significance of individual glyphs are phonology (the distinctive sounds), morphology (words and grammatical particles), and the lexical inventory of Yukatekan and Ch'olan. Both families have similar consonant inventories that include the following phonemes: *p, t, k, 'p, b, t, k, x, tz, ch, tz', ch', j, h, m, n, l, w, y*. The liquids *r* and *l* occur as allophones (phonetic variants of a single phoneme). A contrast between the velar fricative, *j*, and the glottal fricative, *h*,

TABLE I  
Major Periods of Maya History

PERIOD		EXTANT TEXTS
Middle Formative	1000–400 B.C.E.	portable objects (invention of Maya script)
Late Formative	400 B.C.E.–150 C.E.	stone monuments (spread of early Maya script)
Early Classic	150–550 C.E.	monuments, portable objects, etc. (Classic Maya script)
Late Classic	550–900 C.E.	monuments, portable objects, etc.
Early Postclassic	900–1200 C.E.	few stone monuments, Grolier Codex?
Late Postclassic	1200–1700 C.E.	Paris, Dresden, and Madrid Codices, colonial manuscripts

can be reconstructed for both Yukatekan and Ch'olan families. Other phonemes such as *f* and *d*, as well as contrasts between *r* and *l*, occur in words borrowed from Spanish.

Even though languages in both Yukatekan and Ch'olan subgroups have similar consonant inventories, certain correspondences among cognate (related) words reflect regular phonetic changes over time. For example, some words with *t* in Ch'olan correspond to words with *ch* in Yukatekan (from proto-Mayan \**t'*), and some with *k* in Yukatekan correspond to words with *ch* in Ch'olan (from proto-Mayan \**k*). For example, proto-Mayan \**t'ee* 'tree' is *te* in Ch'olan and *che* in Yukatekan, and \**kaan* 'snake' is *kàan* in Yukatekan and *chan* in Ch'olan.

The vowels of Yukatekan and Ch'olan languages include *i*, *e*, *a*, *o*, *u*, and the mid-central vowel *ä*. As syllable nuclei in Lakantun, Mopan, and Itzaj, vowels may be short (V), long (VV), or glottalized (V'V). Additionally, in Mopan, vowels may be followed by *h* (Vh). The vowel *ä* contrasts in length only in Lakantun. Yukatek is the only Yukatekan language in which *ä* does not occur as a distinct phoneme. In Yukatek, vowels occur as neutral, *a*; low tone, *àa*; high tone, *áa*; or glottalized, *a'a*. Ch'olan languages do not distinguish vowel length. Eastern Ch'olan, which includes Ch'orti' and Ch'olti', does not have *d*. Vowels in Ch'olan may be either short (V), glottalized (V'V), or followed by *h* (Vh). A linguistic analysis of the Maya script shows that the shared phonemic inventories of both Yukatekan and Ch'olan languages are represented. One apparent exception is the contrast between the velar and glottal fricatives, *j* and *h*, which can be reconstructed for both proto-Yukatekan and proto-Ch'olan.

Phonetic and morphological evidence suggests that most of the Classic period inscriptions record a Ch'olan language, rather than Yukatekan. Evidence of a Ch'olan pronunciation is widespread and includes such spellings as **chi-hi** for *chih* 'deer' (*kéeh* in Yukatekan), **ni-chi** for *nich* 'flower' (*nik* in Yukatekan), and **yo-to-ti** for *yotot* 'house' (*yotoch* in Yukatekan) (figure 4; Houston et al. 2000:327–37). In fact, Stephen Houston, John Robertson, and David Stuart (2000) propose that the inscriptions record an Eastern Ch'olan language that functioned as a "prestige language" in the Classic period lowlands (and from which modern Ch'orti' descends). This identification does not preclude historical influences on the script from other languages and dialects, however (Justeson et al. 1985; Macri 1991a). Yukatekan spellings occur in the inscriptions of Palenque and several other sites, especially in northwest Yucatán (Bricker 1986:76–83; Krochock 1998; Lacadena and Wichmann 1999; Stuart 2000b). One example of the cueing of a Yukatekan pronunciation is the **ka** phonetic complement on the serpent head found in the emblem glyph of Calakmul and the name of the Palenque ruler K'inich Kan B'alam II (figure 5). This sign signals a reading of 'snake' as Yukatekan *kàan* rather than Ch'olan *chan*. In this instance, the *kàan* spelling may reflect an archaic pronunciation of a proper name and does not necessarily establish Yukatekan as the language of the texts in which it is found.

Among the morphological aspects that point to Ch'olan as the language of the Classic Maya script, the presence of the verbal suffix *-wan* remains the strongest evidence (MacLeod 1984, 1987a:16; Mathews and

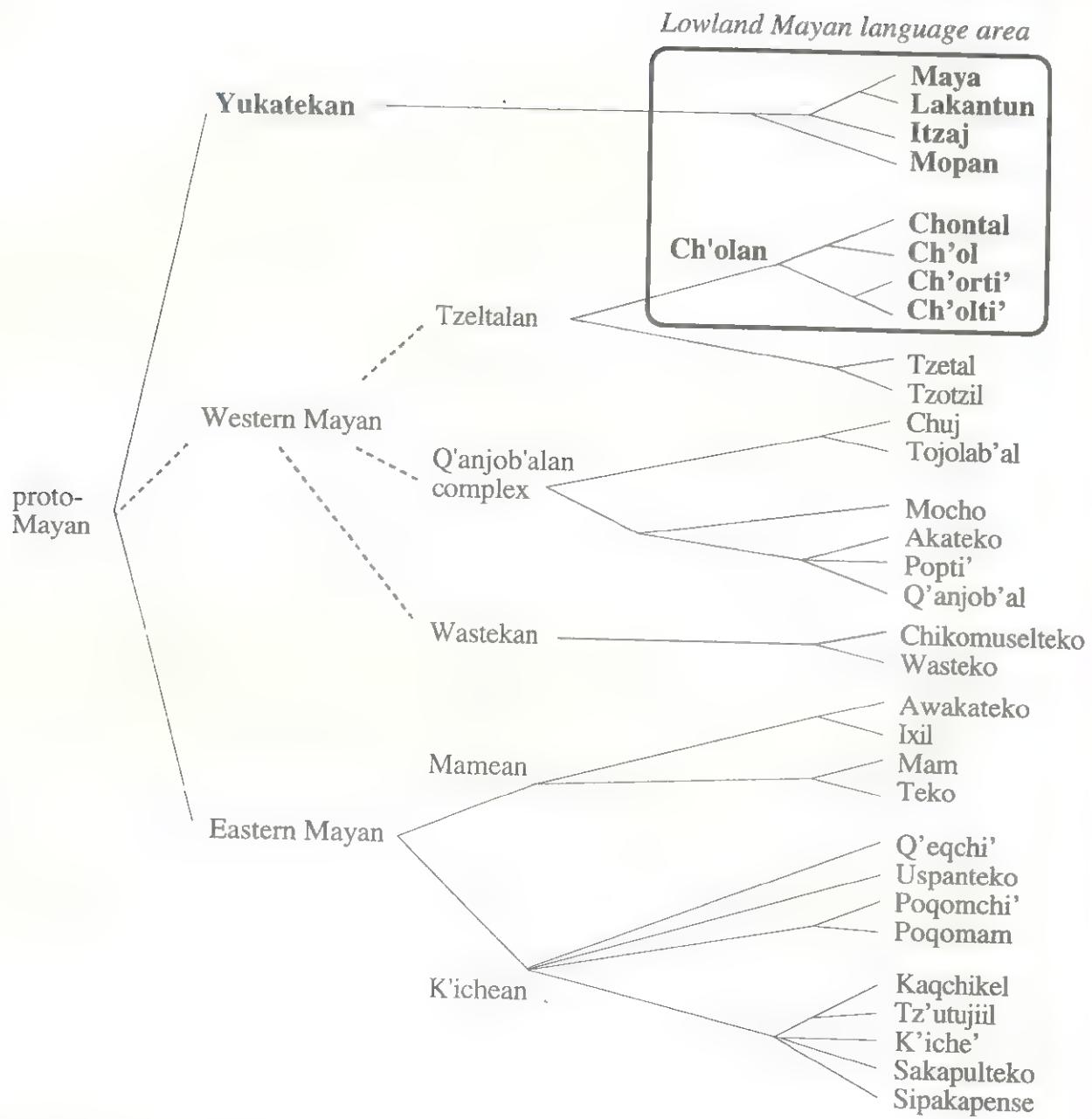


Fig. 3. The Mayan language family.

Justeson 1984:231; Ringle 1985:158). This exclusively Ch'olan suffix appears mainly in the context of accession expressions and is widely distributed throughout the Maya lowlands, even appearing in the northwest Yucatán (García and Lacadena 1990:164). Other verbal suffixes have been cited as indicating one language affiliation or another, but without consensus (Bricker 1986; Houston et al. 2000:325; MacLeod 1987a).

The language recorded in the glyptic texts should not be confused with local vernaculars. Within some local contexts, elites may have spoken a different language or dialect from the general population. Nor can it be assumed that written texts precisely represent the speech of any local population. Borrowings between Ch'olan and Yukatekan indicate that many communities over the course of the Classic period contained



Fig. 4. Compounds reflecting Ch'olan pronunciation. a. **chi-hi** (*chilt*), after Robiesek and Hales (1981:191). b. **ni-chi** (*moch*). Tortuguero Mon. 6 H1. c. **yo-to-li** (*yotol*). Palenque Tablet of the Foliated Cross F?

speakers of more than one language. In light of the complex relationships between the Classic script and reconstructed languages, it may be appropriate to consider the script a grapholect (a transdialectal script) (Macri 1991a:272; see also Justeson 1986:453; Ong 1982:8, 106–8). In this interpretation, many of the grammatical and phonetic features characteristic of the script represent the simplified common features of diverse languages and dialects. Further investigation will surely cast the linguistics of Maya writing into a sharper focus.

#### Decipherment of the Script

Rediscovery of the Maya script began at the end of the nineteenth century and continues today. Europeans and North Americans led the way in the initial phases of decipherment. Today, however, a growing number of epigraphers are from Latin America. These include Maya scholars, who bring their cultural experience and linguistic knowledge to bear on the decipherment and analysis of hieroglyphic texts. Michael Coe (1992) and George Stuart (1992) provide detailed histories of decipherment. Calendrical data were first successfully deciphered in the late nineteenth century (e.g., Forstemann 1904; Goodman 1897). Paul Schellhas (1904 [1897]) correlated images in the codices with certain name glyphs. Most of the progress in the first half of the twentieth century continued to be largely limited to astronomical tables, calendar texts, and the correlation between the Gregorian and Maya calendars. Thompson's *Maya Hieroglyphic Writing: An Introduction* (1950) summarized what was known of the script at mid-century.

Phoneticism (the notion that the script represented spoken language and that at least some signs represented sound disassociated from meaning) was a controversy from the earliest days of decipherment. It was first argued by Cyrus Thomas (1892, 1893) and defended by Benjamin Whorf (1933, 1942), who considered the script to be either syllabic or alphabetic. Convincing arguments for syllabic signs were not presented, however, until the work of the Russian scholar Yuri Knorozov (1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1968). In the United States, David Kelley (1962a, 1962c, 1976), Floyd Lounsbury (1984), and Coe (1973) supported Knorozov's ideas. Nevertheless, several prominent scholars, including Thompson (1953a, 1953b, 1959) and Tatiana Proskouriakoff, resolutely resisted the notion of abstract phonetic signs in the Maya script. Thomas Barthel (1958) also doubted the validity of syllabic readings and offered sound criticism of Knorozov's work, pointing out that his exclusive reliance on colonial Yukatekan sources made it impossible to extrapolate readings to Classic period contexts. While many of Knorozov's early syllabic readings were correct, his subsequent publications included many morphemic (logographic) readings that cannot be supported. Despite the controversy engendered by Knorozov's work, momentum favoring phoneticism began to build (Kelley 1962a, 1962c, 1976). Linda Schele (1979b:15–20) expanded on the arguments of Knorozov, demonstrating the substitutability of phonetic readings for both the codices and Classic period inscriptions.

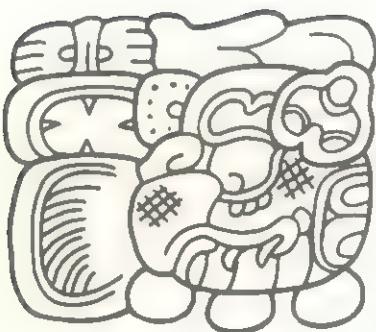


Fig. 5. *K'inich k'aan b'alam*, a compound reflecting Yukatekan pronunciation, Palenque Palace Tablet M12.

(see also Houston 1988). The controversy was publicly resolved at the conference on phoneticism in Maya writing that took place at the State University of New York at Albany in 1979 (Justeson and Campbell 1984). A few years later, David Stuart published the article “Ten Phonetic Syllables” (1987b), a work that remains one of the best models for the methodology of decipherment.

The content of Classic inscriptions was another topic of debate throughout much of the twentieth century. The earliest explorers and students of the Maya culture believed that the monuments recorded historical events, as an early statement by Sylvanus Morley suggests:

While admitting that the inscriptions may, and probably do, contain such astronomical matter as Doctor Brinton and Mr. Bowditch have suggested, the writer believes nevertheless that fundamentally they are historical; that the monuments upon which they are presented were erected and inscribed on or about the dates they severally record; and finally, that the great majority of these dates are those of contemporaneous events, and as such pertain to the subject matter of history. (Morley 1915:33)

By the mid-1940s, however, his opinion had changed: “The Maya inscriptions treat primarily of chronology, astronomy, and religious matters. . . . They are so completely impersonal that it is unlikely that the name glyphs of specific men were ever recorded upon the monuments” (Morley and Brainerd [1946] 1956:229). This interpretation is consistent with that of Thompson (1950:63 -65), who emphasized the ritual nature of the texts and rejected the notion that they were biographical. Several important analyses of the 1950s and 1960s, however, forced a reconsideration. The first breakthrough was Heinrich Berlin’s (1958) identification of emblem glyphs, signs with a prescribed set of affixes and a variable main sign that are associated with individual sites. This was followed by several other studies in which he associated patterns of names with dates through structural analyses of Palenque inscriptions (Berlin 1959, 1963, 1965, 1968). Barthel (1968) and later Joyce Marcus (1976) applied these discoveries by examining the political implications of emblem glyphs. Peter Mathews (1991) tabulated the emblem glyphs from thirty-five sites and summarized efforts to understand their significance. Stuart and Houston (1994) suggested that some emblem glyphs might also refer to geographic locations within a given political unit. Today these compounds are considered to be of critical importance in interpreting Classic Maya politics.

Simultaneous with the discovery of emblem glyphs was the disclosure of the biographical content of many Maya texts. In a revolutionary paper on the inscriptions of Piedras Negras, Proskouriakoff (1960) identified major event verbs we now recognize as ‘birth’, ‘accession’, and ‘death’, as well as the names of protagonists. She followed this with a two-part study of the history of rulers of Yaxchilán (Proskouriakoff 1963, 1964). Kelley, another pioneer in the field of historical documentation, developed a ruler list for Quiriguá (1962b) and found the name of K’ak’upakal, an ethnohistorically attested personage, in the inscriptions of

Chichén Itzá (1968b). The 1970s and 1980s witnessed a flurry of activity, inspired by the work of these scholars. Mathews and Schele (1974) prepared a ruler list for the site of Palenque, and Christopher Jones (1977) discovered parentage statements for a sequence of three rulers at Tikal. Houston and Mathews (1985) outlined a dynastic sequence of Dos Pilas. In a series of three articles, Michael Closs (1984a, 1985, 1989) examined the history of Naranjo. Mathews established a dynastic sequence for Bonampak (1980) and reconstructed an extensive history of Yaxchilán (1988). Both the general study of Linda Schele and David Freidel (1990) and a volume edited by T. Patrick Culbert (1991) summarize and evaluate the work of these and many other researchers. More recently, textual histories are being presented as part of integrated archaeological approaches: for example, Houston's study of Dos Pilas (1993), William Fash and David Stuart's presentation of recent work at Copán (Fash 1991a, 1991b; Fash and Stuart 1991; Stuart 1992), Krochock's dissertation on Chichén Itzá (1998), and Richard Adams's monograph on Río Azul (1999). As a consequence of the accumulation of historical information, the nature of the political relationships between sites is being reexamined (Grube and Martin 2000; Martin 1996; Martin and Grube 1995, 2000; Schele, Grube, and Martin 1998).

Astronomy, a field of inquiry of early Mayanists, is still of major interest. Anthony Aveni (1980), Victoria Bricker and Harvey Bricker (1998), Barbara Tedlock (1999), and Susan Milbrath (1999) summarize current knowledge of astronomy in Maya texts. Some astronomical information is recorded explicitly, such as the age of the moon and the number of days in a month in the initial series dates that begin many monumental texts. Most interpretations, however, are inferred from matching dates or intervals between dates with significant astronomical events or periods. Lunar and solar eclipses, the lunar sidereal period, solstices, heliacal risings of Venus, the first stationary point of Jupiter, and conjunctions of planets are among the phenomena that the ancient Mayas related to the historical events they recorded. It is likely that certain events were deliberately planned to coincide with astronomical phenomena.

While the subject matter of most of the historical and astronomical texts is now understood, much work remains to approximate accurate linguistic transcription and translation of the texts. The *New Catalog* is designed to assist in these efforts by providing a list of all signs known from the Classic period, together with extensive bibliographic references that document the history of decipherment for each grapheme as well as relevant lexical data from Mayan languages.

## CLASSIFICATION OF GRAPHEMES

### Previous Lists and Catalogs

The *New Catalog* has a long and distinguished list of antecedents. Beginning in the nineteenth century, numerous scholars have attempted to facilitate access to Maya glyphs by ordering or grouping signs by various criteria, frequently assigning them identifying numbers. It is useful to document the most significant of these lists, highlighting the importance of each in its historical context. Each of the following catalogs or lists was an attempt to document and interpret the script from a different perspective and sometimes using a different corpus. Many were hampered by limited sources for inscriptions. In the late nineteenth century, few monumental inscriptions were available for study; therefore, the earlier lists focused on the signs found in the newly rediscovered codices. Incorporation of glyphs found in monumental inscriptions has been gradual, beginning in the early twentieth century, after the appearance of Maudslay's drawings of monuments from southern lowland sites (Maudslay 1889–1902). Beginning in the 1960s and continuing to the present, a number of projects and individual researchers have produced collections of line drawings of inscribed texts. The most important of these documents is the *Corpus of Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions* (1975), directed by Ian Graham and published by the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. More recently, Justin Kerr has

recorded inscribed Maya vases with the technique of roll-out photography and is now publishing selected photographs (Kerr 1989, 1990, 1992, 2000; Kerr and Kerr 1994, 1997). With the increase in the corpus size and improved accessibility of texts, the need arises for an updated accounting of the signs. Before presenting this new sign list, we offer observations on some of those that have come before.

#### *Brasseur de Bourbourg (1869–1870)*

In this earliest systematic study of the Maya script, Charles Brasseur de Bourbourg prepared a catalog and table of glyphs. His sources include the codices, the glyphs appearing in Landa's *Relación* (Tozzer 1941), and a selection of Classic-period signs from Palenque. This study is remarkable not only for its pioneering nature but also because it recognized correspondences between glyphs taken from these diverse sources.

#### *Rosny (1883)*

Compared to Brasseur's work, Léon de Rosny's *Vocabulaire de l'écriture hiératique yucatèque* is quite limited. Examples are drawn exclusively from the codices and are sorted into lists of days, months, numbers, figurative signs, and sign groups. The signs are numbered in a continuous sequence from 1 to 242; however, many times variants of the same sign have different numbers. Although the numbering system has little value, Rosny's list is useful for his interpretation of signs, (French) translations, and sources for decipherments, including Landa, Brasseur, Rosny, and Thomas.

#### *Schellhas (1904) [1897]*

Schellhas's list of deity name glyphs identifies nearly the entire set of subjects in the sentences of the codices. The deities are assigned alphabetical names that for the most part are still standard in the field. Further, the name glyphs are associated with their respective attributive glyphs. Most of the names are compounds, though a few are single graphemes (e.g., God C [AMC in this catalog]). Schellhas also includes name glyphs for what he terms "mythological animals."

#### *Tozzer and Allen (1910)*

The study by Alfred Tozzer and G. Allen (1910), like that of Schellhas, was not intended as a comprehensive catalog but simply as a list of Maya glyphs used to name specific animals. Like Brasseur's work, it incorporates examples from both the codices and the monuments and attempts to relate them to iconography. The information is organized into an extensive list of animals by phylum/class: mollusca, insecta, myriapoda, and mammalia.

#### *Gates (1931)*

A landmark and influential study of the Maya script, William Gates's catalog was the first attempt at a systematic concordance of graphemes. As such, it can be considered the earliest conceptual precursor of the *New Catalog*. The work emphasizes the codices but includes some monumental signs. The most significant contribution of this work is its listing of signs with multiple examples and contexts. Gates's list is also the first attempt at standardizing glyphic style and thus prefigures Thompson's catalog (1962).

Gates's catalog is numbered in a logical manner and is discontinuous, allowing for expansion. Signs numbered 1 to 497 are grouped as day signs, month signs, other calendrical signs, cardinal points, numerals, colors, face signs, quasi-facial forms, animal figures, and conventional forms, which include pictographic objects and eclipse and constellation bands. What Gates terms "minor" elements are numbered 600

to 757. He did not assign numbers to the head variant signs and otherwise made no attempt to account for numbers in the script.

#### *Knorozov (1955)*

Published in a bilingual (Russian and Spanish) edition, the earliest of three major glyph lists by Knorozov includes only signs found in the codices. The list is given in three parts; the first (numbered 1 to 150) includes individual signs, followed by a list of two hundred “words” (compound signs) and a list of thirty phrases. The ordering of the signs within these groups is not logical. Nevertheless, Knorozov gives extensive information for most of them, including an identification of the object represented, a syllabic or ideographic reading, and a gloss of the ideographic reading. This study made extensive use of the Motul dictionary and Brasseur’s dictionary (1872). Contextual information (codex and page number) is occasionally provided.

#### *Zimmermann (1956)*

Like Knorozov (1955), Günter Zimmermann’s catalog of glyphs includes only codical signs. Zimmermann, however, took a more sophisticated approach to both sign numbering and analysis of graphemes. Rather than sorting signs by semantic value as had been common in previous studies, he arranged signs according to form, separating small signs (affixes, numbered 1 to 91) from large or main signs (numbered 100 to 1377). The main signs are further grouped into series of human heads and body parts (numbers 100–169), animal heads and body parts (700–763), and “conventional ornamental” signs (“Konventionell-ornamentale Zeichen”; 1300–1377). Zimmermann is the first to use Roman numerals to represent numbers. He also offers examples of contexts with complete transcriptions. For some signs, explanatory text, including identifications, is given (e.g. 39, 66–69, 89). Equivalents for signs recorded by Landa are also listed (Zimmermann 1956:15–17).

#### *Evremov, Kosarev, and Ustinov (1961)*

This concordance of codical signs inaugurated the computer age in the field of Maya epigraphy. Numbered discontinuously 1 to 577, the list includes complete computer-generated contextual information. The codical texts are arranged by showing each frame (usually four glyphs with an illustration) on a single page accompanied by a grid diagram with proposed readings.

#### *Thompson (1962)*

From its publication forty years ago, Thompson’s (1962) *Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs* has been without question the most comprehensive list of Maya graphemes, including both codical and monumental signs. Most of the more recent lists are merely refinements of his system, adding a few signs to his list or reassigning others. Thompson’s goal was to account for every recorded glyph. By painstakingly assembling identical glyphs on cards, he created a file of graphemes, which were then arranged in four groups. Like Zimmermann’s catalog, Thompson’s groups are based on gross formal characteristics, with affixes (numbers 1–370) followed by main signs (numbers 501–856). Portraits (human/supernatural faces) follow as a distinct series (numbers 1000–1087), and finally a group of unidentified “indistinct” main signs (numbers 1300–1347). For many signs, Thompson gave readings (e.g., “Imix” for T501) or descriptions/nicknames (e.g., “fire fist” for T672). Like Zimmermann, Thompson used Roman numerals to encode numbers and discontinuous numbered sets. Inspired by Gates, Thompson’s drawings are standardized. The catalog includes a concordance with Zimmermann’s sign list (Thompson 1962:399–403).

One of the most useful aspects of Thompson’s catalog is the system of identifying contexts. Included are lists of all the known occurrences of each main sign listed with site, monument, and coordinates and

the catalog number of any signs joined to it. The affixes are cross-referenced to the numbers of the main signs with which they occur. The lack of such contextual information for the “portrait” series (numbers 1000–1087) is an unfortunate deficiency.

The years since the *Catalog*’s publication have been the most productive in the history of Maya decipherment. The contribution of the Thompson *Catalog* to this effort is seldom acknowledged. Ironically, however, its success has contributed to its present inadequacy for use in an accurate transcription of Maya texts. We note the following deficiencies:

- The ordering of signs is for the most part random, thus failing to explicitly associate signs related graphically, syllabically, or logographically (for example, signs depicting hands are scattered throughout the *Catalog*).
- Some signs with a single number actually encompass several distinct signs (for example, the variants T609a and T609b are two graphemes, XHA ‘throne’ and XHB ‘book’).
- Some signs are conflations of two or more graphemes (for examples, see appendix 5).
- Some signs are variations of a single sign (for example, our grapheme HT8 includes T644 and T772).
- The distinction between main signs and affixes is often unwarranted, contrasts between square and elongated shapes many times having more to do with artistic considerations and scribal conventions than with any essential characteristic of a grapheme (for example, our grapheme 2G2 includes T93, T603, and T634).
- Numerical head variants are transcribed by Roman numerals, leaving them outside the format of the other glyph designations.
- Many signs were unknown to Thompson (see the discussion above).

### *Kelley (1962c)*

Kelley (1962c) combines features of earlier catalogs, including both graphemes and “glyph groups” organized by categories: animals, objects, days, directions and colors, offerings, locations, god names and titles, months, numbers, temporal periods, astronomical glyphs, Glyph X of the lunar series, Glyph G, haab’ patrons, verbs, syllabic spellings, “count group” prefixes, plants, emblem glyphs, and personal names and titles. Kelley includes a list of glyphs by Thompson numbers with identifications, syllabic and logographic readings, and translations with credits for decipherment. This work is valuable in that it includes both codical and monumental signs and incorporates the interpretations of Knorozov (1955).

### *Rendón and Spescha (1965)*

Juan Rendón and Amalia Spescha’s criteria for classification of Maya graphemes constitute a significant intellectual contribution. Several of their key concepts have been used in the creation of the grapheme classification schema in this volume. Their system groups variants together and juxtaposes similar signs, thereby unifying the classification. In addition, their catalog maintains no separation of main signs from affixes. They recognized that a nonarbitrary naming system would facilitate computer searches and that classificatory groups would provide flexibility when adding new signs to established categories. Finally, their system affords the possibility of transcribing glyphs that are only partially legible. Although their catalog is incomplete, many of their innovative notions have been incorporated in this catalog.

### *Knorozov (1967)*

Knorozov (1967), an English translation of Knorozov (1963), is an expansion and refinement of Knorozov (1955). It includes both codical and monumental signs. The sign groupings are complicated, owing to the

segregation of codical and monumental signs as small (1–100, 415–46), small oval (101–10), and large (111–414, 447–540). The “large” sign category includes large ovals (111–253, 447–69), elongated ovals (254–57, 470, 471), figure ovals (258–97, 472–506), dotted ovals (298–309, 515, 516), and branched ovals (310–17).

For each number, Knorozov identifies the object represented and provides previous references with proposed Old Yukatek readings, Nahuatl comparisons, glosses in Russian (translated into English by Sophie Coe), and context information. The study also includes charts of numbers, numerical head variants and various other calendrical signs, comparison of days with Aztec day names, personal names, objects, actions, and offerings as well as a concordance with Gates and Zimmermann numbers.

#### *Kelley (1976)*

Kelley (1976) includes the first extensive discussion of verbal morphology and structural analysis of codical and monumental texts as well as linguistic reconstructions of proto-Mayan forms by Terrence Kaufman given at the end of each chapter. Although it was not meant to be a catalog *per se*, Kelley included several charts of signs with Thompson numbers and proposed values and decipherments, many informed by the work of Knorozov (1955, 1967). These interpretations are indexed by Thompson number (Kelley 1976:331–34). The first syllabic grid of Maya graphemes is also presented (Kelley 1976:182–83). Finally, the volume includes a useful and thorough history of decipherment and discussion of previous lists (Kelley 1976:289–91).

#### *Smith-Stark and Ringle (1981)*

Thomas Smith-Stark and William Ringle (1981) designed a computerized database coding all the Maya texts by Thompson numbers. They pointed out limitations of Thompson’s system of numbering glyphs and incorporated some important revisions into their database. Three new series were appended to Thompson’s list, including a 400 series (new affixes), a 900 series (new main signs), and an 1100 series (new head variants). To date, they have encoded a significant portion of the corpus, with each record giving the Thompson numbers for the glyphs in each glyph block. There is also an identifying phrase with each record. The first publication to come from this project is a concordance of the texts of Palenque (see below, Ringle and Smith-Stark 1996).

#### *Schele (1982a)*

One of the most valuable reference works in the field of Maya epigraphy is Schele’s (1982a) catalog of verbs. All of the known event phrases are listed in 133 charts, grouped according to main sign and related affix pattern. With each entry Schele provides a drawing of the glyph blocks in the event phrase. The noun phrases associated with the events, dedicatory dates of the monuments, and dates of the events are glossed but not shown. The entries are cross-referenced with indices of Thompson numbers, affix patterns, dates, and clauses on each monumental text listed by site.

#### *Mathews (1984) and Justeson (1984)*

The conference on phoneticism in the Maya script at the State University of New York at Albany in 1979 generated two summary appendices published in 1984. The first is a syllabic chart, created by the participants on a blackboard and redrawn by Mathews (1984). The other is a summary of proposed readings listed by Thompson number (Justeson 1984), in which nine contributors are credited by name (referenced by their initials). In several instances signs with the same Thompson number are divided into two or more sets. In

many cases equivalencies between two or more signs are indicated. Many of these readings had never before been published, so no citations to published works are provided. These appendices document the diverse opinions about a large portion of the corpus at a crucial point in the history of decipherment.

#### *Bricker (1986)*

In her *Grammar of Mayan Hieroglyphs*, Bricker (1986:166–67) describes a computerized database she created for the purposes of syntactic analysis. It included more than one thousand clauses from fifty-one sites and the Dresden Codex. The glyphs are recorded using Thompson numbers, a “functional” classification (date, verb, emblem glyph, etc.), and their position in the clause. This volume includes an index organized by Thompson numbers with proposed readings.

#### *Kurbjuhn (1989)*

Kornelia Kurbjuhn’s catalog (1989) is an updating of Justeson (1984). It includes new decipherments proposed during the 1980s as well as proposed readings solicited directly from epigraphers. The opinions of a total of twenty-eight epigraphers are included. Two affixes and seventeen main signs are appended to the Thompson (1962) series: 371, 372, 857–70, and 1088–90. There are also three added unnumbered affixes inserted between 370 and 371. A lack of adequate referencing and citation and uncritical reliance on the catalogs by Thompson (1962) and Zimmermann (1956) underscore the limited value of this work. It represents an improvement over Justeson (1984), however, in that drawings are included for each catalog number, as well as for Thompson’s unidentified main signs (numbers 1300–1347).

#### *Davoust (1995)*

Michel Davoust (1995) provides a general resource on the Maya script. It includes a catalog with images from Thompson (1962), sometimes with variants added, and an indication of whether the sign is present in the monumental texts and/or codices. There is a descriptive phrase for each sign, followed by logographic value, translation, the language(s) for logographic values, and, finally, syllabic value. Sometimes sources for readings are given. Additions to Thompson (1962) follow those of Kurbjuhn (1989), with a few exceptions. Only one affix (371) is added to Thompson’s list, but it does not correspond to Kurbjuhn’s number 371. In addition, Davoust (1995) adds one portrait glyph (1091). The value of the catalog is diminished by the inclusion of unsupported decipherments and several errors.

#### *Ringle and Smith-Stark (1996)*

The first product of a comprehensive database project begun in the 1980s, Ringle and Smith-Stark (1996) includes a complete listing of the hieroglyphic texts from Palenque that were known at the time and a concordance that gives full contexts of these signs encoded in Thompson numbers. Like several previous studies, the catalog is based on a reworking and extension of Thompson (1962), but in this publication the reclassifications are more extensive. Their catalog of glyph elements does not include readings for the graphemes.

#### *Grube (1989, 1990a)*

The most original feature of Nikolai Grube’s dissertation (1989, published in 1990a), a general study of the Maya script, is an appendix that gives the earliest and latest known occurrences of each grapheme. Grube also identified which of Thompson’s signs he considered allographic variations. Included are 46 new abstract

signs and 132 portrait signs, 59 of which are renumbered from Thompson (1962) or Zimmermann (1956). The portrait heads are grouped into several categories: numeral head variants, period head variants, day and month signs, secondary series heads, supernatural beings, skulls, and miscellaneous portraits. In a summary article, Grube (1994c) includes a discussion of the temporal distribution of graphemes. He shows syllabic charts from 9.5.0.0.0 (534 C.E.) and 9.14.0.0.0 (711 C.E.) as well as a chart of signs used syllabically after 9.11.0.0.0 (652 C.E.). Grube identifies two periods of rapid change in the script and notes, as did Kelley (1976:167), that a core of phonetic signs has in fact remained quite stable from the earliest attestations and the newly invented signs tended to be logographic rather than syllabic.

### *Knorozov (1999)*

A posthumous summary of the most recent work of Knorozov, the *Compendio Xcaret de la escritura jeroglífica maya descifrada por Yuri V. Knórosov*, is a three-volume set edited by Patricia Rodríguez Ochoa, Edgar Gómez Marín, and Myriam Cerdá González. For the most part, the ordering of signs follows Thompson, with little effort to combine obviously equivalent affixes and main signs. Logographic and syllabic values are given, many of which are the same as those proposed by Knorozov in his earliest publications. No references to other works are cited in the body of the *Compendio*.

### *The New Catalog*

This volume lists signs from the Classic period, including variants found on ceramics as well as variants from the inscriptions of northwestern Yucatán dating to the Terminal Classic (800–900 C.E.) and Early Post-classic (900–1200 C.E.) periods. Signs found exclusively in the later Maya books can be found in *The New Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs, Volume 2: The Codices* by Maeri and Vail (currently in preparation). The development of these volumes is necessitated by the increase in the number of known signs and the dramatic progress in decipherment since the publication of Thompson's *A Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs* (1962). The development of the *New Catalog* was given added impetus by the Maya Hieroglyphic Database Project. This project involves the coding of the entire corpus of Maya inscriptions by logographic and syllabic values, Mayan and English glosses, semantic categories, grammatical and morphological features, date of event, date of text, notes, and bibliographic references. Each record is linked to a low-resolution line drawing of the block and to a second image showing the glyph block within a larger context. The graphics component of the database is essential for rigorous comparison. The Maya Hieroglyphic Database can be used to create a nearly infinite number of comparisons and concordances with refined chronological, geographic, and stylistic parameters.

A reclassification of the graphemes as radical as the one we propose, as well as the addition of so many signs, necessitates a new set of illustrations for the graphemes. Thompson's list, previously the most complete, employed stylized images. Sometimes the standard form was actually created from what we now recognize as two separate graphemes. At other times, essential diagnostic details were omitted. In the case of frequently occurring signs, regularization often imposed inappropriate esthetic judgments. For rare signs it is simply impossible to create an idealized form. The drawings of each grapheme in the present catalog are based on actual hieroglyphic texts from the full range of media, locations, and periods and are thus representative of the variation seen in actual Maya texts. They do not favor any single style; nor do they suggest an artificial standard. The images are larger than those published by Thompson, thus facilitating inclusion of important detail.

In the analysis of any script, the first objective is to identify distinctive signs. Some scripts, such as Egyptian, exhibit remarkable graphic uniformity; that is, at least within a single text, all examples of a sign are virtually identical. Other scripts, such as Arabic, have special forms of signs depending upon whether

they occur initially, medially, or finally within a word. The Maya script exhibits an unusual degree of graphic variation of individual signs, sometimes even within a single text, so the task of deciding which signs are distinct graphemes and which are variations has been an arduous one. Some variations are elaborations of graphically more simple signs. Others are abbreviated forms of more complex signs. In this sign list we have included over 200 variations. We consider such variants to be equivalent in meaning, having the same logo-graphic and/or syllabic values.

Often variants do not freely substitute for one another. An example is the anthropomorphic **way** glyph (PE4), which is actually a head variant of the Tikal emblem glyph main sign (intermediate forms are known) (HB1; figure 6). Despite the fact that the **way** head variant can be used in the Tikal emblem glyph, the Tikal main sign cannot be used to represent the word **way**. This requires the identification of two distinct graphemes. Most of the texts available for study are quite repetitive, representing a limited number of formal genres: the political events and parentage statements on public monuments, ownership on name-tagged items, or calendrical, astronomical, and ritual information. Presumably, if a large enough corpus were available, we would have examples of such substitutions.

The system of coding described below has been developed to facilitate assigning unique designations to graphemes for transcription, for cross-referencing, and to aid computer searches for graphemes with similar features. The earliest researchers referred to individual glyphs by picturing them. Later it became common to refer to them by naming the site, monument, and coordinates. Once Thompson's catalog (1962) was published, the signs were referred to by his numbers, commonly called Thompson numbers or T-numbers. As discussed above, several authors have added to Thompson's original list of numbered signs (Davoust 1995; Kurbjuhn 1989; Ringle and Smith-Stark 1996; Smith-Stark and Ringle 1981). Since the added signs do not necessarily correspond from one author to the next, we have only used numbers appearing in Thompson (1962). Some of his "unidentified main sign series" have been added to the *New Catalog*, though we have not referred to them with the 1300-series numbers.

The three-digit coding used in this volume was not developed with the specific intention that the codes would be used as *names* for the graphemes in scholarly texts in the same way that Thompson's numbers have been used, although this is certainly a viable application. Mayan epigraphers, even by the mid-1980s, had for the most part abandoned the Thompson codes as names and had begun referring to graphemes by phonetic value or by the site, monument, and coordinates of specific examples. Today many otherwise competent epigraphers know only a few Thompson numbers by memory. Our intention, however, has been to develop a system of identifying distinct graphemes for computerized searches of the corpus of inscriptions. Identifying the discrete graphemes of a script requires a way to refer to each grapheme individually. This can be a largely random system of numbering or lettering or an ordering of signs into related groups or sequences based on a variety of criteria. Our choice, in light of recent developments in decipherment, has been to create a three-digit coding system in which the first two digits provide information about the graphic characteristics of the sign. Three digits were chosen as the minimum number necessary to distinguish several hundred graphemes. The letter and number combinations are designed so that, except for the bar/dot numerals one through nineteen (001–019), all codes have at least one letter, insuring that there can be no confusion with Thompson numbers.

This system of code assignments, based primarily on form rather than on phonetic or semantic characteristics, has a number of advantages. The classification is expandable, and newly discovered graphemes can easily be integrated into the system by adding them at the end of each two-digit category. A further advantage of this system is that signs that are only partially legible can be coded to account for the information that is available. Partial information can be represented by using the appropriate first or first and second digits followed by zeros. Using Thompson numbers, one would have to list possible signs or make a guess at an identification. In this system three zeros (000) indicate an unreadable glyph.

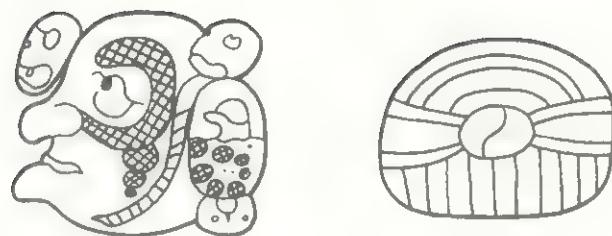


Fig. 6. Variants of the Tikal emblem glyph: a. PE4;  
b. HBI

a

b

The total number of numbered signs in Thompson (1962) is 861 (370 affixes, 355 main signs, 88 portraits, 48 unidentified main signs). The total number of graphemes in this catalog is 673 (with variants, the total is 886 signs shown). The difference between the two catalogs is much greater than these summations suggest. In addition to eliminating duplicate signs, we have added about 250 graphemes for which there is no Thompson number. This is a significant addition, nearly one-third over the original total. Of Thompson's *Catalog* we identify fewer than 400 distinct graphemes used during the Classic period. Many of his numbered signs are actually variants, as is the case with the "water group" AMC. We have also not included Thompson's signs that are conflations of two graphemes. These are listed in appendix 5. Table 2 contrasts the statistics for distinct graphemes in these two catalogs. Thompson's signs include numerous variants as well as signs that occur only in the codices.

The *New Catalog* frequently provides more than one image per grapheme. These *allographs* are phonetically equivalent variants and depict the same object or part of the same object. Although uniformity in size and shape of graphemes is highly valued in most scripts, Maya scribes relished variation. They created allographs in two ways: by reducing graphemes to the minimal component(s) necessary for identification and by elaborating graphemes, often adding features of a human or animal face to an otherwise abstract sign. Our task, in the face of such variation, has been to determine which variants are allographs and which constitute distinct graphemes. For each grapheme we have had to decide whether the abstract variants or the personified or otherwise elaborated variants should be taken as primary. We have usually chosen the most commonly occurring allograph or the simplest form as the basis for categorization. These signs appear in the catalog with the number 1 in front of the picture description. Subsequent variants follow, numbered accordingly. One grapheme is shown with nine variants, one with six variants, three with five variants, nine with four variants, and the rest with two or three variants or with a single example. We have included rare variants of a sign when they might not be easily recognizable. In addition to facial variants, most of the numerical and calendrical glyphs and a few noncalendrical glyphs can be represented in full-figure form. These depict animal or human bodies elaborated with identifying marks on their face, limbs, or costumes. This volume does not include images of full-figure variants.

Allographic variation is irrelevant to the reading of a text. Although it amounts to no more than differences in lettering style or font, it can provide insight into the period or place of origin of a given text. In labeling allographs we considered adding an additional lowercase letter to provide unique designations. One choice is simply to add letters (*a*, *b*, *c*, etc.), and another is to add meaningful letters (e.g., *d* for duplicated, *e* elaborated or expanded, *p* personified, *r* reduced, *s* simplified, etc.). In the interests of simplicity and because the potential for variation is so great, our choice has been to preserve the three-digit label. If referring to a particular variant is necessary, it can be referred to by the number preceding the picture descriptions, or, preferably, it can be described by one of the above adjectives; by naming it by site, monument, and coordinate; or by providing an illustration.

TABLE 2  
Comparison of Graphemes in the *New Catalog (Volume 1)* with Numbered Signs in Thompson (1962)

NEW CATALOG: VOL. 1 (CLASSIC PERIOD)	THOMPSON (1962) (CLASSIC PERIOD & CODICES)
101 <i>I, 2, 3</i>	370 <i>affixes</i>
420 <i>A, B, H, M, X, Y, Z</i>	355 <i>main signs</i>
145 <i>P, S</i>	88 <i>portraits</i>
Ø	48 <i>unidentified signs</i>
7 <i>O (numbers)</i>	Ø
Total	861
673	

### *The First Digit*

The first digit encodes thirteen distinct categories based on formal characteristics of the primary variant (see table 3). The letters *A, B, H, M, P*, and *S* designate respectively animals, birds, body parts, hands, persons, and supernatural beings. Many animal and bird signs and nearly all persons and supernatural beings are represented as left-facing profile heads. The letter *A* designates the first letter of signs depicting fauna (except for birds and humans). Usually these signs are profile heads, though some are whole animals or parts of animals. This category does not include human or supernatural heads with animal features. Grapheme codes beginning with *B* include birds (usually depicted as profile heads) and parts of birds, such as wings, feathers, and feet. *H* designates human body parts, except for heads and hands. The Maya script is unusual among hieroglyphic scripts in the large number of hand signs it employs. Many of the hands hold objects. Some phonetic readings are based on words for 'hand', 'handful', and 'five'. For many hand shapes, the origin of the value is unknown. The faces that have human characteristics, designated by *P*, have round or oval eyes and human noses. Supernatural faces, signs beginning with *S*, are profile heads distinguished by square eyes and other exaggerated or mixed human and animal characteristics. Animal features represented include those of snakes, jaguars, birds, and fish. Both human and animal skulls are included in the supernatural category since it is often impossible to determine whether a skull is that of an animal, a human, or a supernatural.

The sets *X, Y*, and *Z* designate any square signs not included in previous sets: *X* is for square symmetrical signs in smooth cartouches, *Y* is for square asymmetrical signs inside smooth cartouches, and *Z* is for square signs with irregular cartouches, including those composed of multiple elements. Some of these signs depict recognizable objects, often plants or fruit, but for many of them the original referent is unknown.

The numbers *1, 2*, and *3* introduce elongated signs of one, two, or three or more elements, not included in any of the above categories. These categories are not equivalent to Thompson's "affix" category. He noted, among other characteristics, that when an affix is joined to a square sign, some affixes keep the same side toward a main sign. In other words, true affixes can be rotated without resulting in a change in their meaning. The same cannot be said for any of the square signs, several of which we have identified as distinctive signs when rotated 180° (see discussion below). This characteristic does argue for a conceptual category of affixes that contrasts with "main signs." Our *1, 2*, and *3* codes, however, signify only that these graphemes are elongated in shape.

If a sign is composed of two identical elements it begins with 22; if composed of three identical elements it begins with 33. If it has more than three elements it begins with 3. Labels beginning with two numbers always have a letter for the third digit in order to avoid any confusion with Thompson numbers. 0 followed by 00 (000) signifies that evidence of a glyph is visible but it is unidentifiable. 0 followed by two numbers indicates a bar/dot numeral of 01 through 19 (e.g. 001, 002). Head variants for the numbers 1–13 have individual codes based on graphic characteristics (figure 7). The letters *I* and *O*, easily confused with the numbers *I* and *O* respectively, are not used in any coding capacity.

TABLE 3  
Major Categories of Sign Forms

A	Animals (fauna except birds and humans)
B	Birds (birds)
H	Body parts (body parts, except heads and hands)
M	Hands (human and capuchin monkey)
P	Human faces (faces that have human characteristics)
S	Supernatural faces (faces with square eyes and other exaggerated or mixed human and animal characteristics)
X	Square symmetrical signs
Y	Square asymmetrical signs
Z	Square signs with irregular silhouettes
0	(followed by two numbers) bar/dot numerals
0	(followed by 00) unreadable glyph
1	Elongated signs, single element
2	Elongated signs, two elements
3	Elongated signs, three or more elements

The categories in this coding system are hierarchical. First, signs with hands are assigned to the H category regardless of any other features they may include. The A-S categories have precedence over X, Y, Z and 1, 2, 3. Thus, a jawbone in a square cartouche is given the letter H (human) rather than Y (asymmetrical square signs). Square and elongated categories include only those signs that do not fit into the A-S categories.

#### *The Second Digit*

The second letter assigns the glyph to a subcategory based on form. Bilingual English and Spanish mnemonics cue the subcategories shown in table 4. For each subcategory, the numbers of graphemes and the total number of examples are shown. For some, a brief description of the category is given. Zero in the second digit following a letter or number signifies an unreadable sign that can be identified as belonging to one of the twelve major categories. For example, A00 would designate an unidentifiable animal head.

#### *The Third Digit*

The third digit is arbitrary, indicating sequencing of graphemes sometimes roughly in order of frequency or according to similarity of form. The signs are ordered by a number, 1-9, continuing with letters if there are more than nine signs in a category. For those signs in the categories beginning with 1, 2, or 3, the third digit is always a letter. Zero in the third digit signifies a sign that can only be partially identified as belonging to a two-digit category; for example, MR0 would designate an image of a right hand that is missing crucial diagnostic elements.

### FORMS, VALUES, AND FUNCTIONS OF MAYA GRAPHEMES

The following section summarizes the functional, formal, and semantic aspects of Maya graphemes, informed by the classification in the *New Catalog*. Typologically, the Maya script is logo-syllabic in that some of the signs are logographs, representing words in Mayan languages, while others are syllabic signs that represent various consonant plus vowel (CV) combinations. The process of decipherment continues.

	PC1	number 1; haab' patron: K'ayab'; one of three variable elements in Glyph C
	MZ8	number 2
	PT3	number 3
	SN4	number 4; period: 1 day, k'in; haab' patron: Yaxk'in/Yaxk'in
	SN1	number 4; day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal; haab' patron: Yaxk'in/Yaxk'in
	PT5	number 5
	PH6	number 6
	ST7	number 7; day 16: Kib'/Chib'in; haab' patron: Wo; one of three variable elements in Glyph C
	PE8	number 8
	PT9	number 9
	SC1	number 10; day 06: Kimi/Tox; one of three variable elements in Glyph C
	PM6	number 11
	PE1	number 11; day 17: Kab'an/Tzanab'; haab' patron: Sek/Kasew
	PT2	number 12
	SS5	number 13

Fig. 7. Head variants for numbers 1–13.

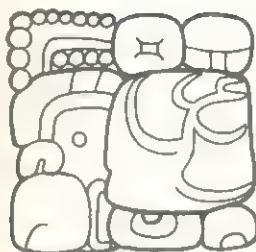


Fig. 8. Quiriguá emblem glyph, Quiriguá Stela A D9.

Se  
ce  
término de Yucatán  
ntrópolí  
ar. ón Científica  
a Vásquez"

Nearly one-third of the 673 graphemes in the *New Catalog* have a proposed syllabic value, and about half have a proposed logographic value (10 percent have both). Thus, two-thirds of all the graphemes have either a proposed logographic or syllabic reading. Only about a third of the graphemes listed here have no generally accepted logographic or phonetic reading. Of these, many can be identified by their function, such as verbs (e.g., 'bless', 'dedicate'), calendrical signs (e.g., haab' patron, completion sign, glyph Y), animals (e.g., rabbit), objects (e.g., shell, dart, planet Mars), toponyms (e.g., main sign of Seibal emblem glyph), or personal names and titles (e.g., GI11). This leaves few signs completely undeciphered.

In the epigraphic literature, the term "sign" is occasionally used to refer to a grapheme. "Hieroglyph" and "glyph" are less exact terms in that they can refer to an individual grapheme or to a group of signs that together represent a single word or phrase (cf. Bricker 1986:1). For example, the sign for 'white' säk (3M1) is a single grapheme. In contrast, an emblem glyph typically combines three or more graphemes, including k'uh(u1)/ch'uh(u1) (AMC), ajaw (2M1), and a variable element that itself can be composed of one or more signs (figure 8).

Individual graphemes sometimes appear alone, but more frequently are combined into *glyph blocks*, the graphic units of glyphic texts. The rectangular shape of glyph blocks results from the arrangement of texts into rows and columns, read left to right and top to bottom (see Thomas 1882). This arrangement contrasts with the Epi-Olmec and Zapotec scripts, which are read in single columns. The incised text on Kaminaljuyú Altar 10 is intermediate between the Epi-Olmec and the Maya formats (see figure 2 above; Macri 1991b). Signs are paired in double columns, but the horizontal rows of the double columns are not aligned. In the Maya lowlands the earliest known double-column inscription is the text fragment on El Mirador Stela 2. Several early Maya texts are characterized by less than perfect grids—for example, Tikal Stela 4 (Jones and Satterthwaite 1982:fig. 5) and Calakmul Stela 114 (Pincemin et al. 1998:316). The shorter texts painted and inscribed on ceramic objects are varied in format. Some are written in double columns, like monumental texts, but many are arranged in a single line that wraps around the circumference of vessels. Secondary texts on both pottery and monumental texts, which often give names of figures or record dialogue, are commonly arranged in short single columns or L-shaped texts that read across and then down. A few notable examples of inscriptions are written entirely in mirror image, and the reading order proceeds from right to left.

Within glyph blocks, signs on the top and to the left are read first, central signs next, and signs on the bottom and to the right are read last. Usually, but not always, when there are signs both on the top and to the left or on the bottom and to the right, the one occupying an entire edge is read first for prefixes and last for suffixes. There are a few signs, notably näl (2S1) and ajaw (2M1), that are positioned above a central sign but were probably pronounced last. The composition of glyph blocks seems to have been motivated graphically as well as linguistically. A block ordinarily includes one or more morphemes, though a morpheme can be spelled across two blocks. A glyph block may, however, include a noun phrase or verb phrase, or even a complete sentence.

The *sign form* of the Maya script is representational in that many of the graphemes are identifiable objects. Some are animals or humans, usually depicting their faces or body parts. For instance, there is an

TABLE 4  
Subcategories of Sign Forms

CODE	SUBCATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
animals		
AA	aquatic	animals and animal parts associated with water: fish, shells, amphibians
AC	snake ( <i>culebra</i> )	snake heads, bodies, body parts
AL	lizard	all reptiles except snakes
AM	monkey/Ajaw	complete monkeys, heads, faces, and Ajaw faces
AP	dog/rodent ( <i>perro</i> )	various mammals not included in more specific categories
AT	jaguar ( <i>tigre</i> )	jaguar heads, bodies, and parts
AV	deer ( <i>venado</i> )	deer heads, bodies, and body parts
AX	mixed	various mammals with additional elements
birds		
BM	mixed	generic and miscellaneous birds and body parts
BP	parrot	parrots
BT	owl ( <i>tecolote</i> )	owls and other raptors
BV	vulture	vultures
human body		
HB	bun	hair bun
HE	eye	eyes
HH	bone ( <i>hueso</i> )	bones
HJ	jaw	mandibles
HM	male genitals	male genitals
HT	torso	other body parts: torsos, legs, feet
hands		
MB	both	two hands or single digit
MR	right	right hands
MZ	left ( <i>izquierdo</i> )	left hands
persons		
PC	face ( <i>cara</i> )	human faces with plain eye
PE	decorated eye	human faces with decorated eye
PH	hidden eye	human faces with covered eye
PM	mouth	human faces with object in or on mouth
PT	top	human faces with forehead adornment or object on head
PX	mixed	right facing or frontal faces
supernaturals		
SB	bird	birds with exaggerated or mixed animal characteristics
SC	skull ( <i>calavera</i> )	human and animal skulls
SN	human nose	supernatural beings with human nose
SS	supernatural nose	supernatural beings with nonhuman nose
ST	jaguar ( <i>tigre</i> )	supernatural beings with jaguar features
square shape, symmetrical		
XD	design	patterned or plain
XE	imix type	similar to the day sign for Imix
XG	drops ( <i>gotas</i> )	having one or more circlets
XH	horizontal	divided by a horizontal line
XQ	quadripartite	divided into four parts
XS	spiral	having spirals or curved lines
XV	vertical	divided by a vertical line

TABLE 4 (continued)  
Subcategories of Sign Forms

CODE	SUBCATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
square shape, asymmetrical		
YG	drops ( <i>gotas</i> )	having one or more circlets
YM	mirror	having mirror markings
YS	spiral	having spirals or curved lines
irregular square shape or complex		
ZB	bundle	ties or binding
ZC	kawak	having a kawak "stone" infix
ZD	design	patterned or plain
ZE	elbow	occupying adjoining vertical and horizontal sides
ZH	horizontal	divided by a horizontal line
ZQ	quadripartite	divided into four parts
ZS	spiral	having spirals or curved lines
ZU	U-shaped	cartouche open on one side
ZV	vessel	pottery vessels or baskets
ZX	compound	composed of two or more cartouches
ZY	notched	having a notch or point on one side
ZZ	notched, multiple	having multiple notches
numerals		
00	numeral	numerals denoted by bars and circles (lines and dots)
elongated shape, one element		
1B	bundle	appearing to be tied or bound
1C	kawak	having a kawak "stone" infix
1G	drops ( <i>gotas</i> )	having one or more circlets
1M	mirror	having curved "mirror" signs
1S	spiral	having spirals or curved lines
elongated shape, two elements		
22	2	two identical components
2G	drops ( <i>gotas</i> )	having one or more circlets
2M	mixed	miscellaneous signs with two parts
2S	spiral	having spirals or curved lines
elongated shape, three elements		
32	2	three components, two identical
33	3	three identical components
34	4	four or more components
3M	mixed	miscellaneous signs with three components

extensive set of hands. A few signs are identifiable objects, such as plants, clothing, vases, or architecture. Many signs are so stylized that their representational significance is not apparent. The relationship of the represented image (visual form) to the value (linguistic form) of the sign is sometimes obvious, but more often obscure. For purposes of decipherment, earlier researchers usually relied on visually motivated readings, but recent epigraphers have discovered new readings more reliably by identifying substitution patterns rather than by attempting to derive a reading from the graphic form of the sign.

The visual and linguistic reference of many logographs is convergent, in that their conventional meanings are roughly similar. For example, a head of a monkey is used to represent the word for 'monkey', *maax*. In this and many other cases, the glyptic sign is often abbreviated without affecting phonetic value. Another

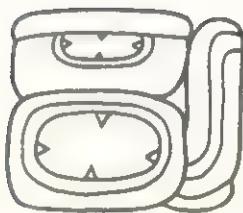


Fig. 9. **Lak'in**, Yaxchilán Lintel 30 F3.

common mode by which form and value are related in the Maya script is the rebus (Justeson and Mathews 1990; Thompson 1944, 1950:46–48). A rebus is the use of an image of an object to represent a word that is homophonous or nearly homophonous with the word corresponding to the depicted object. An example of rebus usage in the Maya script is the glyph for ‘east,’ read *lak'in*, which is composed of a ‘plate’ (*lak* ZVB) joined with the ‘sun’ glyph, *k'in* XQ3 (figure 9; Justeson n.d.). Another is the usage of a sign representing a necklace (*uh*) as the third person Set A pronoun *u-* (HE6).

Morphological features represented by logographs include free morphemes (words) and bound morphemes (meaningful elements that can only occur as parts of words). Examples of free morphemes are *b'áalam/b'ahläm* ‘jaguar’ and *ti'/ti*, a locative preposition. An example of a bound morpheme is *u* ‘he/she/it’ or ‘his/her/its’. Often, epigraphers use the term “phonetic” in contradistinction to “logographic,” when in fact all logographs have a phonetic value in that they were pronounced. For example, a picture of a deer probably represented the Yukatekan or Ch'olan word ‘deer’. A hypothetical phonetic value can only be confirmed, however, when the sign occurs with syllabic complements or if there are substitutions in equivalent contexts in which the word is spelled with syllabic signs. Many of the logographs in the script have some variation of the typical CVC shape of Maya roots, CVVC, CVhC, CV'C (e.g., **man** or **cháak/chahk**); others represent more complex derived forms (e.g., **b'áalam/b'ahläm** and **ko'haw**). In the body of the *New Catalog*, readings in Mayan languages are provided only when a sign is known to have been used for that word. For example, ‘hand’ is not a logographic reading for all of the hand signs, even though the objects depicted are obviously hands. From the Classic period there are no known examples of the fish (AA1) used for anything but the sound *ka*. Logographic value is often related to, but frequently not precisely equivalent to, the visual referent of the sign.

*Calendrical signs* constitute a distinct category of logographs. In the Maya script, each of the twenty day-names in the Mesoamerican calendar of 260 days is represented by a unique grapheme. Because the conventional references to these days come from Colonial Yukatek, they may not be the same as the names used in the central or southern lowlands during the Classic period. Data from colonial and contemporary Mayan languages allow for likely reconstructions, but the attested examples do not necessarily reflect ancient pronunciations. Indeed, because day signs never carry syllabic complements (nor were they spelled syllabically), we cannot be certain of their pronunciation. Established logographic and syllabic values for some of the day signs seem to be unrelated to attested names. A list of day signs with logographic and/or syllabic values is given in figure 10.

The Maya period glyphs used in the long count (the count of days from the beginning of this era), the signs for the twenty-day “months,” and the glyphs of the supplementary series are composed of both single and multiple graphemes. Some of these graphemes have known logographic and/or syllabic values and occur in noncalendrical contexts. The *New Catalog* lists graphemes only and therefore does not include calendrical glyphs composed of more than one grapheme. Month names, names for lunations, and the Lords of the Night series are more appropriately included in a lexicon.<sup>1</sup>

For recent discussions of glyphic compounds see Coe and Van Stone (2001) and Montgomery (2002).

Code	Day name (Yukatekan/Ch'olan)	Syllabic value	Logographic value
	XE1 day 01: Imix/Imux	b'a	<i>b'äh / b'ä; b'ah</i>
	SS6 day 01: Imix/Imux		<i>ha'; oxlajun / uxläjun</i>
	XQ6 day 02: Ik'/Ik'; haab' patron: Mak/Chantemak		<i>iik' / ik'</i>
	XQ6 day 02: Ik'/Ik'; haab' patron: Mak/Chantemak		<i>iik' / ik'</i>
	XH9 day 03: Ak'b'al/Wotan; haab' patron: Mol/Mol		<i>äak'äb' / ahk'äb'; äak' / ak'; äk'</i>
	XH4 day 04: K'an/K'anan	wa?	<i>óol / ol</i>
	XH4 day 04: K'an/K'anan	wa?	<i>óol / ol</i>
	XG4 day 05: Chikchan/Nachan	xa	
	ACL day 05: Chikchan/Nachan		<i>man</i>
	AC6 day 05: Chikchan/Nachan; haab' patron: Sak/Sak, haab' patron: Kumk'u/Ohl	b'i	<i>käan / chan</i>
	SC1 day 06: Kimi/Tox; number (head variant) 10; variable element in Glyph C		<i>lajun / läjun</i>
	MR7 day 07: Manik'/Manich'	chi	
	AV1 day 07: Manik'/Manich'	chl	<i>kéeh / chij</i>

Fig. 10a, b, c. Day signs with conventional Yukatekan and Ch'olan names, syllabic and logographic values.

Knorozov (1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1963) introduced the notion of semantic determinatives, believing that the Maya script, like Egyptian hieroglyphics, had signs that confirm a specific reading for a particular glyph. For example, all names of gods in Egyptian are followed by a semantic determinative signifying that a god rather than a mortal is the referent. In the Maya script, Schele (1979b:16–17) suggested that a headband occurring on a vulture, human, or animal head indicates that the glyph is to be read *ajaw* 'ruler'. Nevertheless, the use of the headband alone (ZB3) to represent this *ajaw* argues for its interpretation

Code	Day name (Yukatekan/Ch'olan)	Syllabic value	Logographic value
	ZQD day 08: Lamat/Lamb'at; haab' patron: Yax/ Yax		<i>èek' / ek'</i>
	YG2 day 09: Muluk/Mul	u	<i>u-</i>
	XG1 day 09: Muluk/Mul		<i>pèet / pet; -pèet / -pet</i>
	AP9 day 09: Muluk/Mul	b'a	<i>b'äh / b'ä; b'ah</i>
	AP5 day 10: Ok/Ok		<i>ok / och; òok / ok; òoch / uch?</i>
	YS5 day 10: Ok/Ok		
	XS3 day 11: Chuwen/B'atz'	cha; se	
	AMJ day 11: Chuwen/B'atz'		
	SC4 day 12: Eb'/Eb'		
	XH1 day 13: B'en/B'in		
	AT7 day 14: Ix/Ix		<i>hix</i>
	SSE day 15: Men/Men		
	XH6 day 16: Kib'/Chib'in		

as a logograph, not a semantic determinative. We consider the headband and the human, vulture, and animal that contain the headband to be four distinct graphemes (ZB3, PT7, BV1, AX1) (figure 11).

The cartouche for the day sign (ZZ1) may, in fact, have functioned as a semantic determinative during the Classic period. This grapheme indicates that the enclosed sign functions as a day sign rather than representing a syllabic or logographic value. Nevertheless, it is possible that originally the cartouche was read *k'äl* 'twenty'. The "inverted ajaw" that is occasionally infix in the lower part of the cartouche may support

Code	Day name (Yukatekan/Ch'olan)	Syllabic value	Logographic value
ST7	day 16: Kib'/Chib'in; number (head variant) 07; haab' patron: Wo; variable element in Glyph C		wúuk / huk
YS1	day 17: Kab'an/Tzanab'; haab' patron: Sek/Kasew		kàab' / kab'
XQ8	day 18: Etz'nab'/Chab'		
ZC7	day 18: Etz'nab'/Chab'		
ZC1	day 19: Kawak/Chak	ku	tùun / tun
ZC1	day 19: Kawak/Chak	ku	tùun / tun
SS1	day 19: Kawak/Chak		cháak / chahk
AM1	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal		ahaw / ajaw; nik / nich?
PT7	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal		ahaw / ajaw
BV1	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal		ahaw / ajaw
AMF	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal	u	u-
AX1	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal		ahaw / ajaw
SN1	day 20: Ajaw/Ajwal; number (head variant) 04; haab' patron: Yaxk'in/Yaxk'in		kän / chän

this hypothesis, possibly serving as a phonetic complement, *la* (figure 12a).<sup>2</sup> In addition, *ti* or *ta* sometimes appears above or to the top left of the day sign (figure 12b). This suggests that the preposition is read after the number, as in the phrase 'eleven Ajaw of the twenty'.

2 Alternatively, the inverted ajaw may be an iconographic feature indicating the floral derivation of the day sign cartouche. If this is correct the element would have no phonetic significance.

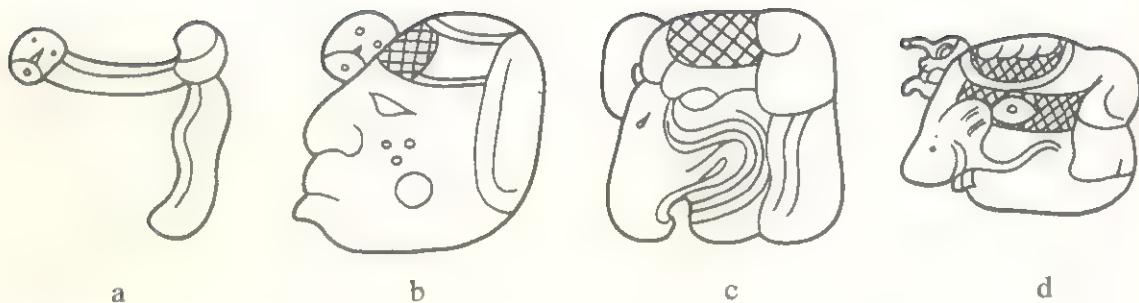


Fig. 11. Graphemes reading **ajaw**: a. ZB3; b. PT7; c. BV1; d. AX1.

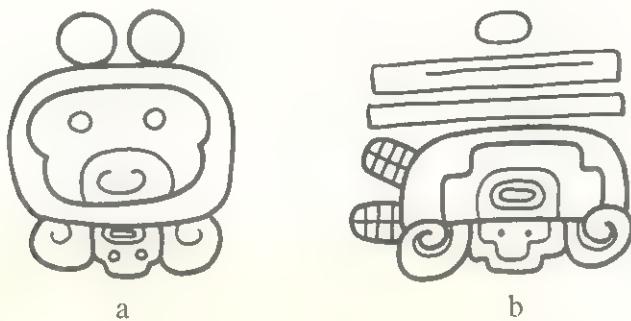


Fig. 12. Examples of the day sign cartouche with possible **la** complements: a. Caracol Altar 4; b. Tikal Marcador E1

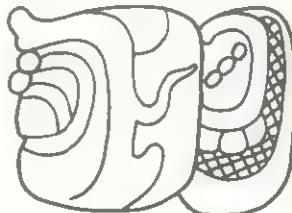


Fig. 13. Double dots indicating the double reading of a grapheme, Piedras Negras Lintel 3 F2.

Another functionally distinctive grapheme is the two small circles (22A) placed at the corner of a larger grapheme to indicate the doubling of the grapheme's reading (Stuart and Houston 1994:46). For example, double dots placed before the **tz'u** syllable indicate a **tz'utz'(u)** reading (figure 13). This sign function relates to the use of 'two' in words for 'repeat' found in many Mayan languages (e.g., Aulie and Aulie 1998:30; Barrera Vásquez 1980:277; Hofling and Tesucún 1997:338). We consider it to constitute a unique category. It is an example of a grapheme that is not read; that is, it has neither syllabic nor logographic value. The two dots simply instruct the reader to repeat a syllable. It is therefore more properly described as a diacritic than as a semantic determinative. There is no other punctuation or sign indicative of reading known from the Maya script.

*Subgraphemic* features are not listed as individual signs. These iconographic elements are important in formal recognition, but they have no logographic or syllabic value. Examples include the **IL** mark on female

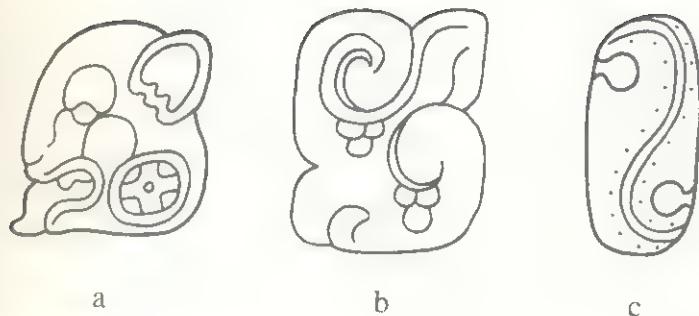


Fig. 14. Glyphs with subgraphemic features: a. AP9; b. ZC2; c. 1C1.

Yucatán  
enigmas  
nítida  
Dr. Alfredo Barrera Vásquez"

faces and the circle containing a dot shown frequently on hands/wrists. Graphemes can be used as subgraphemic features, such as the *k'an* cross (XQ1) in the jog glyph (AP9) or the stone kawak markings on several graphemes, including *witz* (ZC2) and the glyph for flint (1C1) (figure 14).

Nearly a third of the total number of signs signify consonant + vowel syllables. Table 5 is a chart of all of the possible CV combinations in Yukatekan and Ch'olan languages (21 consonants, 5 vowels). About 80 percent of all the possible CV combinations have been documented in the script. Syllables with *i*, *a*, and *u*, those vowels at the extremes of the vowel space (high front, high back, and low), are represented most often. Syllables with *e* and *o*, the mid vowels, are least common. There appears to be no contrast in syllabic signs between *a* and *ä*. At least some syllabic signs have been securely identified for all consonants except *p'* (although there are two candidates for *p'e* that are not universally accepted). Nearly all signs for syllables containing plain stops and affricates have been identified. Sets with glottalized stops and glottalized affricates are the least complete. There may be a contrast between *j* and *h* as *ju/hu*, but this is unusual. In addition, the *ha* syllables do not all freely substitute, suggesting that there may be a hard/soft contrast, but this has not been thoroughly investigated.

### Spelling Conventions

Since the Maya script is a mixed logographic/syllabic script, words may be represented by single logographs, compounds of syllables, or a combination of both types of signs. Sometimes a logograph stands alone to represent a word; at other times a syllabic complement is added to signal or to reinforce a particular reading. Frequently logographs are combined to create derived forms. A word may be spelled entirely by a sequence of CV graphemes. The problem with such a system is that many Mayan words end in a consonant, and roots are typically CVC, CVVC, CVhC, or CV'C in shape, with inflectional and derivational affixes generally (C)V- or -V(C) in form. Knorozov, who possessed a knowledge of Akkadian, Egyptian, and other nonalphabetic scripts, immediately recognized in the Maya script a common convention by which CVC words are spelled with two CV graphemes, the second grapheme representing the same vowel as the first: CV + CV (Knorozov 1958:290). Such *synharmonic* spellings occur in spellings such as *b'akab'* **b'a-ka-b'a** 'ruler' and *nuk nu-ku* 'great; large'.

While Knorozov's principle of synharmony holds for some spellings, *disharmony*, in which the second vowel is not the same as the first one (CV<sub>1</sub> + CV<sub>2</sub>), is also frequent. Scholars have proposed many explanations for this phenomenon, even to the point of using these examples as proof that neither CV values nor synharmony apply to the Maya script (Thompson 1953a, 1963). One explanation is that the second syllabic sign is polyvalent (e.g., *tun-nV* for *tun*) and thus is synharmonic. Or it may be that the variation is random or that some as yet undiscovered predictable pattern will explain the variation. Recently Houston, Robertson,

TABLE 5  
CV Combinations for Which Syllabic Signs Have Been Identified

	i	e	a / ä	o	u	/i
Plain stops and affricates						
p	•			•	•	4
t	•	•	•	•	•	5
tz	•			•	•	3
ch	•	•	•	•	•	5
k	•	•	•	•	•	5
‘	•	•	•	•	•	5
Glottalized stops and affricates						
p'		•				1
b'	•	•	•	•	•	5
t'					•	1
tz'	•		•		•	3
ch'			•	•		2
k'	•	•	•	•	•	5
Fricatives						
s	•	•	•		•	4
x	•		•	•		3
j					•	1
h/j	•	•	•	•	•	5
Nasals						
m	•	•	•	•	•	5
n	•	•	•	•	•	5
Liquid and semi-vowels						
l	•	•	•	•	•	5
w	•		•	•		3
y	•	•	•	•	•	5
	17	13	18	15	17	

and Stuart (1998) have proposed a different theory to explain disharmony in the Maya script. They suggest that disharmonic spellings indicate a complex vowel in the root (VV, V'[V], or Vh). Thus, *cháak/chahk* is spelled **cha-ki**, instead of **cha-ka**. This rule extends to syllabic complements as well, in which, for example, a **ki** complement is consistently added to the **cháak** logograph. This solution is currently being reviewed and refined by various epigraphers.

It also happens that a few bisyllabic words (CVCVC) are spelled with only two syllabic signs with no indication of the final consonant of the second syllable: for example, **i-tz'i itz'** 'in' 'younger brother' (Stuart 1997:6) and possibly **ju-ku jukuh** 'canoe' (Looper 1992). An explanation for this phenomenon may be that in rapid speech in both Yukatekan and Ch'olan languages (and other Mayan languages as well) word final or phrase final consonants such as *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, and *b'* are frequently devoiced and unreleased. The writing system may thus reflect this phonetic feature, utilizing a disharmonic complement or spelling to represent additional elements that may not be fully pronounced during reading (e.g., **tun-ni** for *tunil*).

Some seemingly disharmonic spellings actually indicate morphological variation. In such cases, CV signs can only be interpreted as spelling VC morphemes or "morphosyllables," as termed by Houston, Robertson, and Stuart (2001). Although some epigraphers object strenuously to the suggestion of CV/VC

alternations, there seems to be no other explanation for many spellings. Again, such alternations are found in Akkadian and other known syllabic scripts. The use of morphosyllables is documented at the site of Palenque in expressions incorporating the variable element in the emblem glyph **b'ak**, represented logographically by a bone (HH1), a skull (SCM), or a heron (BM8). In the emblem glyph the variable element is complemented by **la** (AMB), whereas in the Palenque spirit companion title **le** (1SC) follows the **b'ak** logograph (figure 15a, b). A satisfactory morphological explanation for this variation is that **la** is used to spell *-al*, a suffix that derives locations from nouns; here, 'place of the heron(s)' from 'heron.'<sup>1</sup> In the other context, **le** is used for *-el*, a suffix that derives adjectives from nouns. Thus, the entire compound may read 'the spirit companion of the heron place' or 'the Palenque spirit companion'. Another example occurs in the main sign of the emblem glyph of Tikal, which represents a hair bun and reads **mu'ut** (Stuart, in Grube and Martin 2000:74–75). This sign is often suffixed by **la**. As an alternative to interpreting **mu'ut-la** as a disharmonic spelling, it is more likely that **la** here functions as the derivational morpheme *al* in *mu'ut-al*. Thus, Tikal may be referenced as 'place of the hair buns/birds' or, using a Mixe-Zoque etymology, 'place of the water pools' (Macri 2001b).

In Palenque texts, the **b'ak** place name is always spelled with a logograph. This contrasts with the **b'ak**, **b'ak-ki**, and **b'a-ki** alternation occurring in 'he of *x* captives' expressions, most of which occur along the Usumacinta and Pasión River drainages, and with the **b'ak**, **b'ak-li**, **b'ak-ki**, **b'a-ki**, and **b'a-ka** spellings of 'bone' found throughout the Maya lowlands (figure 15c). Surely some of these are best interpreted as indicating derivational affixes, such as *-il* or *-al*, rather than as evidence of either disharmonic or synharmonic spellings. The explanation that the **ki** and **li** complements indicate that the root has a complex vowel offered by Houston, Robertson, and Stuart (1998) is uncertain, given that among the contemporary lowland languages only Yukatek and Lakantun retain the proto-Mayan long *aa* in *b'aak*. Itzaj, Mopan, and all Ch'olan languages have a short vowel, *b'ak*.

In the present catalog, we have not created a separate category for morphosyllables, as their value is understood to be inverted from the syllabic value. Morphosyllabic usages are labeled "suffix" in the field "word class."

### Formal Aspects of Graphemes

In addition to their semantic and functional properties, Maya graphemes have distinctive formal characteristics, which changed over time. The design of individual graphemes resulted from the iconographic tradition upon which it was based. The rectilinear format of hieroglyphic writing is related to Middle and Late Formative monumental art traditions, especially architectural facades, which are vertically and horizontally constrained. The rectilinear quality of graphemes was further reinforced by the typical arrangement of texts into paired columns from an early date (see Schele and Miller 1986:pl. 32b). The association of large elements with small elongated elements, seen throughout the entire history of the script, also recalls the formal structure of early Maya pictorial art, such as the elaboration of earflare assemblies. Maya writing continued to develop in tandem with pictorial images, such that there is full iconographic and stylistic integration of the two modes of communication.

By the Late Classic period, grapheme shapes are typically squared, with closed outlines and few projecting forms. In painted texts of the period, a very wide grapheme outline complements fine inner details and emphasizes grapheme integrity (see Coe and Kerr 1997:154). In contrast, many early texts feature signs with irregular silhouettes (Schele and Miller 1986:pls. 9, 10, 22a, 32b). One motivation for this development may have been the prominence of personified glyphs in the Early Classic period. Another may have been the change from incising technique to relief carving. The incising technique typical of early texts allowed artists

<sup>1</sup>For example, Tzeltal *-Vl* adds the meaning of 'place of abundance of objects' as in *tahal* 'stand of pine' or *iximal* 'cornfield' (Kaufman 1971:81).



Fig. 15. Examples of **b'ak** with various affixes: a. **k'uh(ul)-b'ak-la-ajaw-wa** (*k'uhul b'akal ajaw*), Palenque Temple of the Inscriptions, east panel Q9; b. **b'ak-le-wa-way-la** (*b'akel wayal*), Palenque Tablet of the 96 Glyphs I2; c. **aj-ux-b'ak-ki** (*aj ux b'ak'il?*), Tamarindito Hieroglyphic Stairway 2 Step 3 G2.

great freedom in outline, in which glyphs were often widely separated. In contrast, later monumental texts were often first laid out with a deeply cut rectilinear grid. As the sculptor worked, probably following a painted pattern, the blocks were further subdivided into smaller rectangular shapes. The result was highly rectilinear in appearance, although sometimes a right handed slant from the lower left to upper right is visible. This slant is perhaps most evident in painted texts, although even painted signs retain a basically rectilinear form. Some examples show that artists used guidelines, analogous to the grid of a monumental inscription, to place the text (see Coe and Kerr 1997:155–56; Reents-Budet 1994:255, pl. 6.23). Even Late Classic incised texts, such as the Palenque Tablet of the 96 Glyphs, have rectilinear graphemes that conform to the grid ideal (figure 16).

The design of most graphemes is generally based on an ideal of balanced asymmetry. This holds for both ovoid forms and faces. The typical orientation of face signs looking to the left counterbalances the movement of the reader's eye toward the right. Because of their broken or indented left side, face signs seem to have a center of gravity on the lower right side. Often an ear, earflare, or other marking emphasizes a grapheme's center of gravity. This uneven weight distribution is also seen in closed oval signs, in which the upper left-hand corner is usually relatively rounded. While few signs are precisely symmetrical, most have internal details regularly distributed throughout the grapheme. For instance, the complexity of the nose, mouth, and forehead on the left side of faces is often balanced by an elaborate earflare on the right. The preponderance of curved and arcing elements within a grapheme, coupled with the slightly rounded shape, often suggests rotational movement. On painted texts, this movement is sometimes enhanced by an evident brushstroke in the outline, beginning at the upper right and proceeding counterclockwise (Coe and Kerr 1997:154). Sometimes the artist leaves the outline incomplete, with a short gap between the initial and final strokes.

The proportions of Maya graphemes vary considerably. Some graphemes have an elongated form, while others are roughly equivalent in height and width. Other signs are composed of aggregates of two or more units of varying sizes. Even the earliest discussions of the Maya script distinguish between main signs and affixes (e.g., Brinton 1895:81). While some graphemes are relatively stable in form, such as 3M2 **ti**, others are remarkably variable. Many signs of diverse shapes are simply variants of each other, produced through processes of elaboration and reduction. A few graphemes alter their proportion through duplication, in which the signs are placed side by side. Examples are **yá'ax/yäx** (ZUJ), on Tortuguero Monument 6 G8, and **ka** (AA1), which is frequently doubled. Some doubled signs are typically arranged in mirror image, such as **sa** (XV4) and **ma** (32A). In the latter, a small loop separates the duplicated units. A similar principle guided



Fig. 16 Palenque Tablet of the 96 Glyphs, detail. Photograph by Merle Greene Robertson, copyright Merle Greene Robertson, 1976.

scribes to render a **nu** sign either as a simple mirror with tassels or as twin mirrors connected by a knot and partially surrounding a large oval sign (3M9). Many graphemes are expanded or contracted to fit a space, such as YM2 **ta** and AL6 **áayin/ahin**. In addition to adjustments in proportion, graphemes may be reduced through suppression of parts. An example is the rendering of MB3 on Quiriguá Stela F, C12 (Looper 1995:fig. 5.2d), with only one arm instead of the usual two.

One of the most distinctive and interesting features of the Maya script that allowed for graphemic variation is personification. We distinguish two kinds of personification. *Substitution personification* occurs when an abstract sign is replaced by a human or animal head, to which it is graphically unrelated. The most common of these are the calendrical glyphs for various periods (b'ak'tun, k'atun, etc.) (figure 17) and the numbers 1 through 19 (see figure 7).<sup>4</sup> *Elaboration personification* involves the transformation of an abstract sign into a face (usually generic human or snake), while retaining graphic features of the original sign. Theoretically, any sign could be personified through elaboration; but in practice, only a limited number of variants are common, mostly the day signs (see figure 10). Examples of noncalendrical personified signs are 1S2, 32K, and ZU1. The most extreme method of elaboration to fill a space is the rendering of a grapheme—usually only a face sign—as a full-figure form (figure 18). Usually a generic humanoid body (usually with supernatural markings) is attached to the glyph. For many of the A-series glyphs (animals), a naturalistic animal body is used, appropriate to the sign. For the b'ak'tun, k'atun, and tun periods (SB1, SB3, and SB4), generic bird bodies with spotted feathers and serpent wings accompany the bird heads, as on Copán Stela D (figure 19).

<sup>4</sup> Head variants for 14–19, and sometimes for 13, are composed of a skeletal jaw added to the head variants for 3–9.

	XQ3	1 day, k'in; haab' patron: Yaxk'in/Yaxk'in		SS8	360 days, tun; 365 days, haab'
	SN4	1 day, k'in; number (head variant) 04; haab' patron: Yaxk'in/Yaxk'in		SB5	360 days, tun; 365 days, haab'
	AMK	1 day, k'in		ZH1	7,200 days, k'atun
	ZU8	1 day, k'in (with 2S2 suffix)		ZH1	7,200 days, k'atun
	SNA	1 day, k'in (with 33F suffix)		SB3	7,200 days, k'atun
	XS1	20 days, winal		ZC5	144,000 days, b'ak'tun
	AA7	20 days, winal		SB1	144,000 days, b'ak'tun
	AM9	20 days, winal		XH3	144,000 days, b'ak'tun; haab' patron: Sek/Kasew
	AM2	20 days, winal		1G8	part of pictun glyph
	XH2	360 days, tun; 365 days, haab'		MRB	part of kalab'tun and k'inchiltun glyphs
	SB4	360 days, tun; 365 days, haab'; 7,200 days, k'atun		MRB	part of kalab'tun and k'inchiltun glyphs

Fig. 17. Graphemes signifying calendrical periods.

While some occasions called for the elaboration and expansion of graphemes, at other times ancient Maya scribes endeavored to conserve space by violating grapheme outlines. Some artists used overlapping, especially right-hand signs over left-hand ones, to compress text horizontally. This process sometimes results in superimposition, in which a grapheme completely obscures the greater part of another sign. An example noted by Stuart (1995:38) is the superimposition of *ajaw* over *wiinik háab'/winik hab'* (ZH1) (figure 20a). A grapheme may occur as an infix, in which it is completely enclosed within the space of a larger sign and yet retains its outline (Kelley 1976:14). For example, Glyph B of the lunar series often has the *ko* syllable

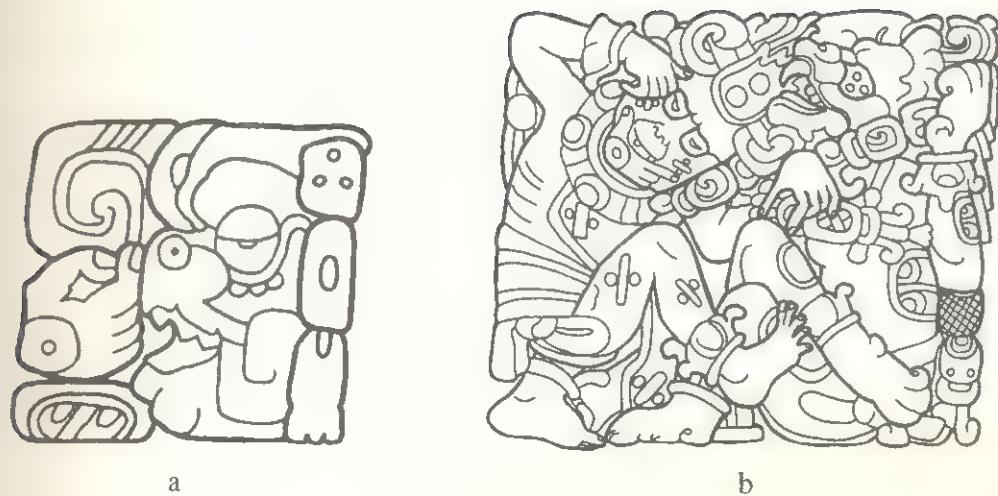


Fig. 18. Full figure variant of a glyptic compound: 0 winals on a. Quiriguá St. A B4 and b. St. D C9–D10.

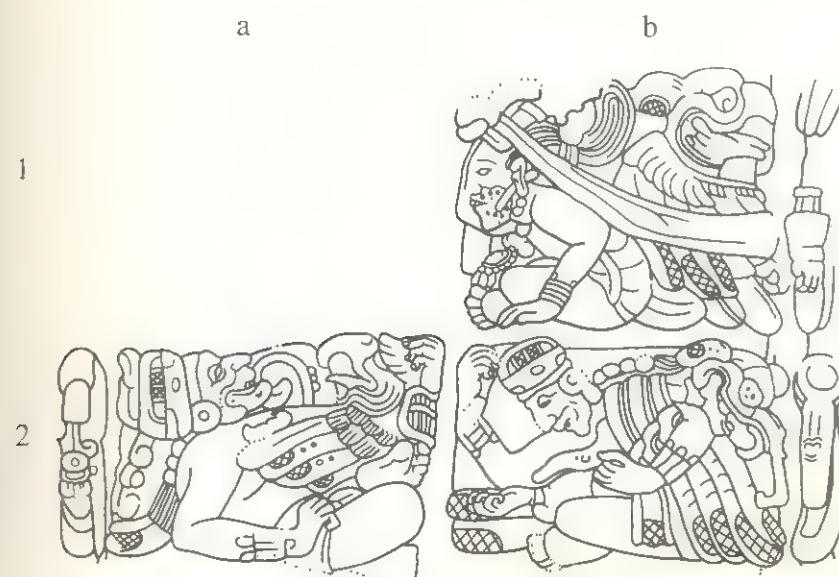


Fig. 19. Glyphs for 9 b'ak'tuns (B1), 15 k'atuns (A2), and 5 tuns (B2), from Copán Stela D. Drawing by Linda Schele and Matthew G. Looper.

(1BA) infixated into the **ch'o** animal head (APB) (figure 20b). The logical conclusion of this process of grapheme combination is conflation, in which selected features of two graphemes are fused into a new hybrid sign. The process of conflation is illustrated by the glyph for the haab' period Ch'en, in which the dark pattern of XG8 is combined with 32K (figure 20c).

The rotation of elongated signs around a central main sign does not affect their reading. However, rotating square signs by 90° or 180° does affect the value of the sign (figure 21). The rare **wa** sign, PX3, is a mirror image of the common PC1 **na'**; **nah**; **ix-**.

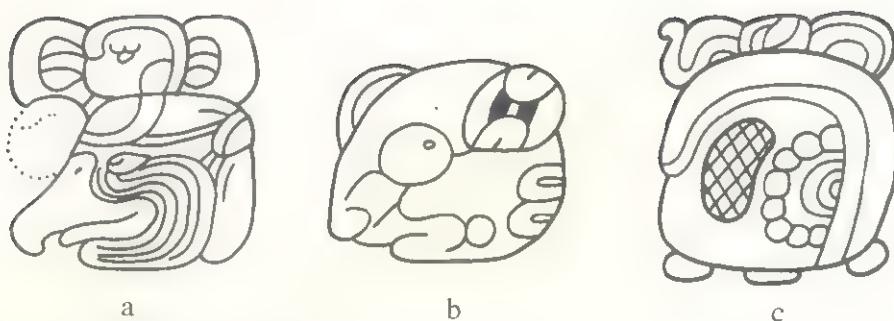


Fig. 20. Modes of grapheme conflation: a. *winik haab' ajaw*, Piedras Negras Lintel 3 U10; b. *ch'ok*, Piedras Negras Lintel 3 B"2; c. *ch'en*, Tikal Temple I Lintel 3 B3.

	Code	Syllabic value	Logographic value
	AM1		<i>ahaw / ajaw; nik / nich?</i>
	AMB	la	-al
	APM	tz'i; xu?	<i>sòotz' / sutz'; ux?</i>
	APN		<i>tzúutz / *tzutz</i>
	MR2		<i>k'ab'; k'äl</i>
	MR4		
	MZ6		<i>ok / och</i>
	MZP	k'o	

Fig. 21. Square signs differing by 180° rotation.

### The Origin of Graphemes

It has been suggested that graphemes originated as logographic signs (Stuart 1995:35). That is, each sign originally represented a word. It has been further supposed that the change from word to CV syllable sometimes came about through the process of acrophony, or truncation, usually by dropping the final consonant of

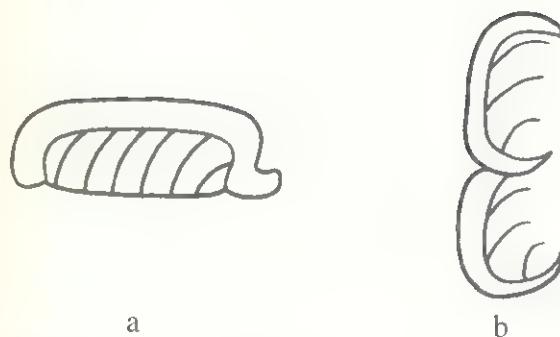


Fig. 22. A grapheme derived acrophonically, **ka** from \**kay* 'fish' (AA1).

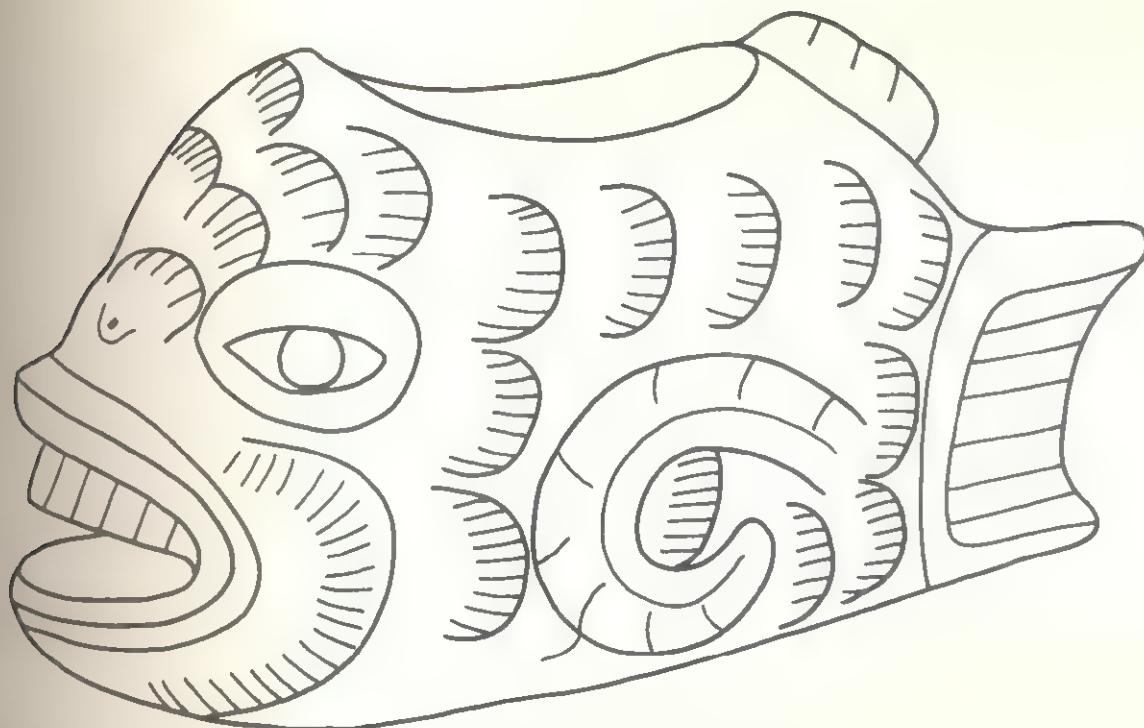


Fig. 23. Ceramic vessel in the form of a fish from the valley of Mexico, Middle Formative period.

a CVC morpheme, leaving only the first consonant and vowel (see Houston et al. 2000:328). The use of the fish scale or fish fin and the image of a fish, AA1, is the best-known example of this process (figure 22). Both the comblike scale/fin and a full fish image signify the syllable **ka**. A striking illustration of the fish and fish scale/fin motif can be seen on a ceramic fish dating to the Middle Formative period, attributed to the Central Mexican highlands (figure 23). Here the connection between the "comb" element and the fish is unmistakable.

Mayan speakers, presumably Yukatekan, associated the comb shape with their word for fish, *kay*, and then used it to represent only the first consonant and vowel of that word. The earliest datable example of the **ka** value of AA1 is on the Early Classic Marcador from Tikal, where it occurs unambiguously in a phonetic

TABLE 6  
Cognates for 'Four', 'Sky', and 'Snake'

	YUKATEKAN	CH'OLAN
four	<i>kán</i> (ITZAJ, MOPAN)	<i>chän</i>
sky	<i>ká'an</i>	<i>chan</i>
snake	<i>káan</i>	<i>chan</i>

spelling of the month Mak and has no reference to 'fish'. There seems little doubt that the origin of the syllabic value is derived acrophonically from some reflex of proto-Mayan \**kar* 'fish'. A Yukatekan or even a K'ichean language would be a more likely source than the Ch'olan and Tzeltalan words for 'fish' that begin with *ch*, as in proto-Ch'olan \**chay* (Kaufman and Norman 1984:118). Neither the fish scale/fin nor the full fish image occurs in known examples of the script to represent a word for fish. In all Classic period texts, the grapheme AA1 represents the sound *ka* without any semantic reference to 'fish'.

For many graphemes, there is an evident correspondence between the appearance of the sign and its logographic value: for example, the thigh/torso **kum/chum** (HT8) 'sit'. For some of these logographs, the significance was extended to include homophones of the original referent. A well known example occurs in the use of various signs to represent the Yukatekan and Ch'olan words for 'four', 'sky', and 'snake' (table 6). Some signs substitute for each other in only a limited distribution. In particular, although 'four' can represent the words 'sky' or 'snake', we know of no examples in which either 'sky' or 'snake' is used to indicate 'four'.

Figure 24 lists signs from the Classic period that have phonetically related logographic and syllabic readings. In a majority of the examples shown, the final consonant of the logograph is *h* or *j*. In about a quarter of the examples the final consonant is *'*. About 10 percent of the examples end in *k*. Other dropped final consonants include *l*, *n*, *y*, and *k'*. Acrophony remained a productive process well into the Classic period, as shown by the occasional use of **b'áalam/b'ahläm** 'jaguar' for **b'a**, in which case the entire final syllable is dropped. For some signs, as with **ka**, the original logographic reference was completely lost, retaining only an acrophonically derived syllabic value.

In summary, there are two possible origins for signs with phonetically related logographic and syllabic values. One is that a syllabic sign might have been extended in an incomplete spelling (not real, only apparent acrophony). True acrophony occurs when a logograph is used to represent a syllable. Only a few signs are polyvalent in that they function in both logographic and syllabic capacities, but with seemingly unrelated values (figure 25).

#### GUIDE TO THE CATALOG AND APPENDICES

The index contains images of all the graphemes and grapheme variants described in the *New Catalog*. Beneath each image are the new three-digit code and the original Thompson number. The signs are ordered by grapheme code, beginning with the lettered signs followed by the numbered ones.

As indicated in figure 26, each entry in the body of the *New Catalog* begins with the three-digit code, followed by an image of the grapheme. Then follows the Thompson number, if there is one, and images of the grapheme from Thompson (1962). When Thompson offers multiple variants of a single number, we have not pictured more than three of them; for example, we show only three of the seven variants of T561. Sometimes two or more of Thompson's signs constitute a single grapheme. We have then matched our code with the most common of these.

Directly beneath the three-digit code appear proposed syllabic and logographic values in bold letters. We have proposed values for a grapheme only when general agreement exists among epigraphers and when the

	1G4	a ah / aj		MZ4	ho ho'		ZC5	pi -pih; pih
	AL2	a a-, ah / aj; ha'		1G5	hu hul		XH7	pu puh / puj
	BP1	a ha'		2S6	k'a k'ák' / k'ahk		32R	sa sa'
	AP9	b'a b'äh / b'ä; b'ah		AM	k'u k'uul / ch'uul		3M6	si síih / *sih
	AT1	b'a b'áalam / b'ahläm		BP7	k'u k'uk'		1B1	ta ta, tä; täj
	SC2	b'a b'ääk / b'ak		32A	ma ma'		2G1	te -te; te'
	SCM	b'a b'ääk / b'ak		BP5	mo mo'		3M2	ti tí' / ti
	XE1	b'a b'äh / b'ä; b'ah		1G2	na nah		33A	to tóok / tohk
	XGE	b'i b'éeh / b'ih		PC1	na na'; nah		AP1	tz'i tz'i'
	2G2	ch'a ch'ah		1S3	ne neh; néen / nehn		XH5	tzi tzih
	APB	ch'o ch'o'/ ch'o'(k)		22F	nu nùuk / nuk; num?		ZS4	tzu -tzuk
	005	ho ho'		3M9	nu nùuk / nuk; num?		1S1	wi wi'; wi'il

Fig. 24. Signs with related logographic and syllabic readings.

values are supported by substitutions, context, or graphic appearance. In general, we have avoided assigning unsupported values. Both Yukatekan and Ch'olan logographic values are given, since the precise reading of a given example can not be determined without phonetic complementation.

The logographic value is italicized. Beneath that is the word class (part of speech), followed by an English gloss for the Mayan word(s). A logographic reading is not necessarily the word for the object repre-

Code	Syllabic value	Logographic value
AA7	e	wúnik / <i>winik</i> ; <i>winal</i>
AC6	b'i	kàan / <i>chan</i>
ACK	wa	chapat / <i>chapaht</i>
AL8	hu	súh / *sih
APM	tz'i; xu?	sòotz' / <i>sutz'</i> ; <i>ux?</i>
XQB	ta	k'ät
YSB	b'u	hub'; -ub'?, -b'u?
ZC1	ku	tùun / <i>tun</i>
ZU1	ha	k'àal / <i>k'al</i> ; -aj
ZU1	ha	k'àal / <i>k'al</i> ; -aj

Fig. 25. Signs with contrasting logographic and syllabic readings.

sented. When the Yukatekan and Ch'olan forms are different, a slash divides the two, with the Yukatekan form first. To the right of the logographic reading is an English gloss. All of this information is repeated for every variant, even though not every variant occurs in all possible contexts or is necessarily identified with all of the proposed values.

Some signs have logographic value, but no English gloss is available. A few signs, such as 'temple; pyramid', 'eclipse', and 'Mars', have an English gloss but no confirmed reading in Yukatekan or Ch'olan. Multiple logographic readings are separated by semicolons. Selected definitions and glosses for logographs are provided from contemporary and colonial dictionaries for Yukatekan languages (Yukatek, Itzaj, Lakantun, Mopan) and Ch'olan languages (Ch'ol, Chontal, Ch'olti', Ch'orti') with proto-Ch'olan forms when available. Lexical sources are listed only with the first example of each grapheme.

Following the lexical entries appears information concerning calendrical significance. Notes that refer to other information about the sign follow the lexical sources. Beneath that is a number for each grapheme variant (unique or first variants have 1) and a phrase describing the grapheme's appearance or identification. Sometimes the descriptive phrases are quite speculative; they are intended only for verbally distinguishing the images.

For each grapheme, and frequently for some of its variants, we have listed proposed interpretations with their bibliographical citations. These are divided into five chronological periods:

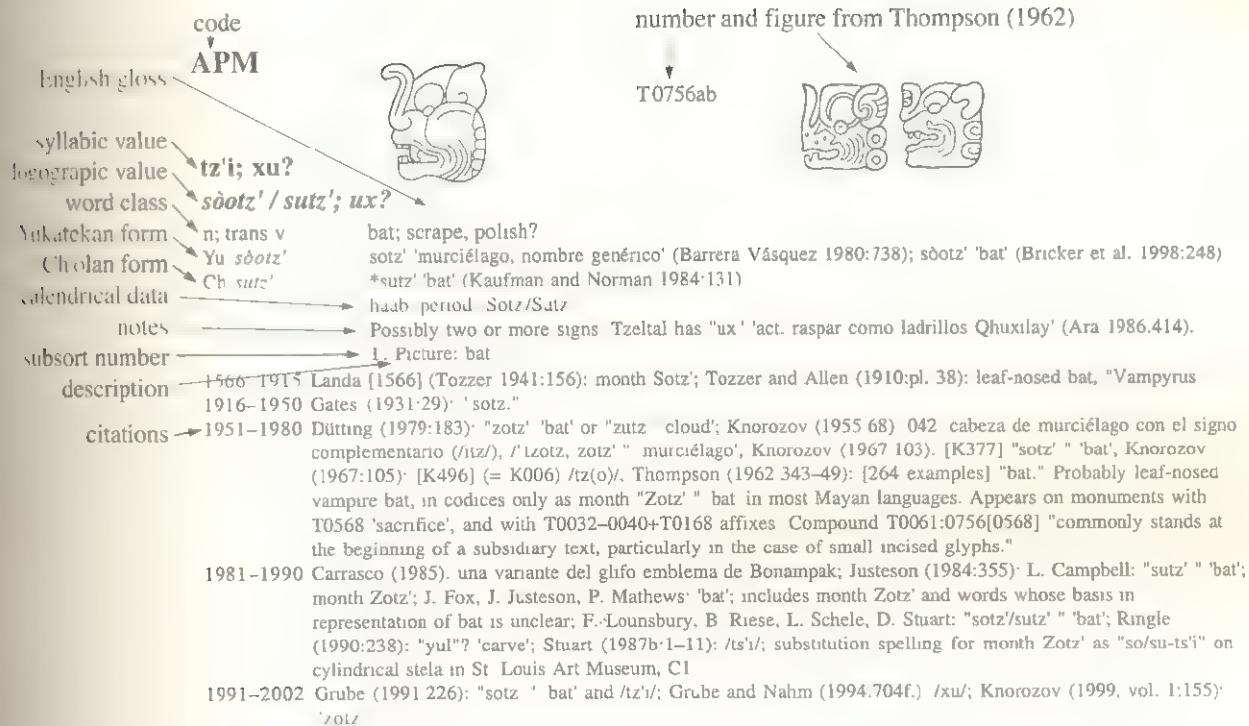


Fig. 26 A sample catalog entry.

1566–1915: includes Landa's "alphabet," material from the Codex Pérez, and readings by Brasseur de Bourbourg, Goodman, Rosny, Schellhas, Seler, Thomas, Tozzer and Allen, and other early scholars;

1916–1950: includes readings by Morley, Gates, and Thompson's summary of the field to 1950, *Maya Hieroglyphic Writing: An Introduction*;

1951–1980: contains material by Berlin, Kelley, Knorozov, Prokouriakoff, Thompson's *Catalog* (1962), and early material by Lounsbury, Mathews, and Schele;

1981–1990: contains the summary of readings in Justeson (1984), material from Bricker's grammar (1986), the sign list from Grube (1989), and readings by Fox, Houston, Justeson, MacLeod, Schele, Stuart, and many other contributors;

1991–2002: includes summary readings by Davoust, revisions to the Thompson (1962) classification by Ringle and Smith-Stark (1996), the recent summary of Knorozov (1999), and decipherments by various epigraphers.

Within each of the chronological headings, the citations are listed alphabetically by author. The list is not comprehensive but does contain sufficient information so that the reader can trace the progression of decipherment. Sometimes a correct reading was given early on, dismissed, and not taken up again for many decades. In others, early scholars surmised a correct reading, but only later was substitution evidence presented to confirm the reading. Such cases underscore the nature of the decipherment process as cumulative and inclusive of the work of many scholars. Generally, we have not presented supporting evidence or summarized arguments for these readings, except to give syllabic substitutions for logographic signs, when noted in the literature. The arguments in favor of syllabic readings are often so complex and extended that it is impossible to summarize them in a cursory fashion.

Most citations are of primary sources in which authors develop their own arguments for decipherment. In some, however, the author merely refers to a reading, suggesting only acceptance of someone else's proposal. Much of the early work by Förstemann, Schellhas, and Seler is cited in the English translations, which appeared several years later than the original publication. For example, Schellhas's articles on deity names was first published in 1897, while the English version did not appear until 1904. Most of Seler's work was republished several times. The later versions sometimes contain Seler's own revisions. We have usually cited early material from later English-language editions (e.g., Seler 1976, 1990, 1992), providing the dates of the original publication in brackets. For details on the publication of these items, see the editorial notes in the later editions.

Our coverage of the earliest work is not comprehensive. We have cited only a sampling of early readings, a large number of which have proved to be insupportable, sometimes including unidentifiable graphemes or elements that are now recognized as subgraphemic particles. We have made an effort to include references to those readings that have later been demonstrated to be correct. Many early decipherments consist merely of a passing remark or observation embedded within long discussions of a variety of topics. Students of the history of decipherment can be assured that many gems of insight await rediscovery in the works of these early writers. Houston et al. (2001) is a collection of primary source materials, containing forty-eight articles.

Some of the citations listed in this catalog are secondary sources—that is, another researcher is quoted or credited with a particular reading. Two summaries, Kelley (1962c) and Justeson (1984), were especially complete for their periods. In both publications, the authors provide initials to refer to scholars. In the *New Catalog* we have indicated the first initial and spelled out the appropriate last names. This format distinguishes these references from citations to published sources, for which the last name and date are given.

Material from Justeson (1984) appears in about a third of the entries and has been modified in several ways. Diacritics indicating the originator of a reading are not included, "???" is now "?," "#" has been omitted, "emblem glyph main sign" has been shortened to "emblem glyph," "day sign" to "day," "month sign" to "month," and so forth. We have used "<" to indicate "for," "from," "origin in," and "based on" and "=" for "is same as," "equivalent to," and "equals." The labels "logographic" and "phonetic" have been eliminated before readings, since this distinction is indicated in this catalog by double quotation marks and slashes respectively. The reader is encouraged to refer to the original source for additional information.

When Thompson (1962) provides more than one example of an affix, he does not letter them (a, b, etc.). Letters for variants of affixes cited in Justeson (1984) as well as in Grube (1990a) and Ringle and Smith-Stark (1996) are not always equivalent, though the relevant citation appears in the appropriate entry in this catalog.

In a few cases, we have relied on personal communication for unpublished glyph readings. In the last three decades progress has proceeded at a rapid pace. Many decipherments are presented at professional meetings and workshops or circulated in unpublished papers long before they appear in print. The author of the earliest cited publication is therefore not necessarily to be credited with decipherment. We have made every attempt to credit appropriately those responsible for recognizing or explicating new readings. The purpose of this study is not to assign single credit to specific researchers, however, but to document the cooperative nature of the enterprise and flow of ideas. Throughout the history of research, simultaneous independent decipherments frequently resulted from the accretion of previous readings and the always increasing number of available texts. The notebooks prepared by Linda Schele for the Maya Meetings at the University of Texas at Austin are particularly important for summarizing the latest research each year.

Following the body of the *New Catalog* are the appendices. In most of the appendices and figures, logographic values are shown in lowercase bold italics and phonetic values are shown in lowercase boldface. Appendix 1 is a list of graphemes arranged alphabetically by proposed syllabic values. Appendix 2 is a list of

graphemes with proposed values arranged alphabetically by Mayan words. Appendix 3 lists signs with logographic value ordered by English glosses. Appendix 4 lists the correspondence of our codes with the numbers assigned by Gates (1931), Zimmermann (1956), and Knorozov (1967). Appendix 5 shows the signs from Thompson (1962) that we have identified as conflations and therefore have not given grapheme status.

At the beginning of his *Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs*, Thompson warns, “Fellow epigraphers, of your charity do not improve this system; confusion will outweigh gain and tinkered pans soon leak” (1962:34). We would like to emphasize that the *New Catalog* is not, in fact, an attempt to modify his system. On the contrary, we have attempted to organize the graphemes in an entirely different way that in certain respects recalls earlier systems. For those signs Thompson identified, the original, untinkered T-number remains.

Unlike Thompson’s catalog, we have not listed the monument and coordinate of all known examples. Such a concordance, along with a lexicon of logographic and phonetically spelled words, can be generated from the Maya Hieroglyphic Database. The *New Catalog* has added a significant number of new signs, supplied new drawings for all signs, provided precise language-specific spellings and lexical entries for all proposed logographic readings, and listed significant publications. Our efforts have been enhanced by access to an increasingly complete body of lexical data and an ever-growing corpus of Maya texts. It is our hope that this summary of current knowledge will be a valuable tool for scholars, students, and interested laypersons as well as students seeking to understand this extraordinary writing system.

## Appendix 1. Signs with Proposed Syllabic Values with Code and Thompson Number

a AL2		b'a AT1		b'i AC6		cha? 32F		ha ZU1	
a AL2		b'a PCB		b'i XGE		che 1B7		ha ZU1	
a AL2		b'a PT9		b'o HM1		che 1B7		ha ZU1	
a AMG		b'a SC2		b'u YSB		chi AV1		ha ZYB	
a BP1		b'a SCM		b'u YSB		chi MR7		he AV3	
a BP1		b'a XE1		ch'a 2G2		chi MR7		he ZU8	
a BP1		b'a XE1		ch'a 2G2		chi SC9		he 33B	
a MB1		b'a XE2		ch'a 2G2		cho HJ1		he 33B	
a IG4		b'a ZX5		ch'o APB		cho HJ1		he? SNA	
a; ha BP3		b'a 33H		cha MZ9		chu ZY9		hi APC	
b'a AP9		b'e APD		cha; se XS3		chu? HT6		hi IM1	
b'a AP9		b'e; b'i HTF		cha; se XS3		e AA7		hi 32K	
b'a AT1		b'i AC6		cha? 2S4		ha SC3		hi 32K	

hi 32K		ju? 001		k'a?, k'i? XGF		k1 1B2		li 1SB	
hi 33F		k'a MZ3		k'e ZY8		ko HJ3		lo XGA	
hi 33F		k'a MZ3		k'o MZP		ko IBA		lo XGA	
ho MZ4		k'a 2S6		k'o MZP		ku ZC1		lo XGA	
ho PT5		k'a 2S6		k'u BP7		ku ZC1		lu ZUG	
ho SN8		k'a 2S6		k'u 22B		la AMB		lu ZUG	
ho ZUF		k'a? SSB		k'u 22B		la AMB		lu ZUG	
ho ZUF		k'a? ZS9		ka AA1		la AMB		ma XE3	
ho 005		k'a? 32P		ka AA1		le AP3		ma 32A	
hu AL8		k'a? 32P		ka AA1		le ZSD		ma 32A	
hu MZF		k'a? 32P		ka AA2		le 1SC		ma 32A	
hu 1G5		k'a?, k'i? BM1		ke MZA		le 1SC		ma 32U	
hu 1G5		k'a?, k'i? BM2		ke MZA		li BV5		ma 33K	
i BV8		k'a?, k'i? BM2		ki BT5		li 1G3		me XE6	
i YM1		k'a?, k'i? BM2		ki 1B2		li 1M4		mi MR1	
i YM1		k'a?, k'i? BM2		ki 1B2		li 1M4		mi MR1	

mi ZQ4		na 34A		o BT1		po XG3		ta YM2	
mi? PM7		ne ATB		o BT1		po XG3		ta ZS1	
mo BP5		ne ATB		o BT1		pu XH7		ta ZS1	
mo BP5		ne 1S3		o BT1		sa PM1		ta 1B1	
mu YSA		ne 1S3		o 1SJ		sa PM1		ta 1B1	
mu YSA		ni 1S2		o 32E		sa XV4		ta 1B1	
na PCI		ni 1S2		o? 32E		sa XV4		ta 3M3	
na PX4		no ZD2		p'e? AX6		sa 32C		te ST4	
na PX4		no ZD2		p'e? PEC		sa 32R		te ST4	
na XD5		nu 22F		pa XD1		sa 32R		te ST4	
na 1G1		nu 22F		pa XD1		si 3M6		te ST4	
na 1G2		nu 22F		pa ZUA		su 1B3		te XGC	
na 1G2		nu 22F		pi SB1		t'u XE4		te YGI	
na 1G2		nu 3M9		pi ZC5		ta SCG		te ZZ5	
na 1M3		nu 3M9		pi ZC5		ta XQB		te 2G1	
na 2M4		nu 3M9		pi ZC5		ta YM2		te 2G1	

ti BV3		tz'i XH5		u HE6		wa 2S2		ye ZY7	
ti 3M2		tz'i XH5		u HE6		wa? XH4		yi ZUH	
ti 3M2		tz'i XH5		u HE6		wa? XH4		yi ZUH	
to 33A		tz'i XH5		u PC7		wa? XH4		yi ZUH	
to 33A		tz'i ZU5		u PE5		wa? ZUB		yi ZUH	
to 33A		tz'i; ki 32J		u PE5		wi 1S1		yo MZC	
tu 3M4		tz'u SSJ		u YG2		wo 1SF		yo 1SA	
tz'a XQ7		tz'u ZS4		u YG2		xa XG4		yu 32D	
tz'a 3M7		tz'u ZS4		u YG2		xa XG4			
tz'a 3M7		u AA4		u 33D		xi SC5			
tz'i AP1		u AA4		wa ACK		xo AM6			
tz'i XVI		u AMF		wa ACK		ya SCJ			
tz'i; xu? APM		u AT8		wa ACK		ya 32M			
tz'i AA3		u HE6		wa PX3		ye MZR			
tz'a ZZA		u HE6		wa PX3		ye PH3			
tz'i BVA		u HE6		wa 2S2		ye ZY7			

## Appendix 2. Signs with Proposed Logographic Values Ordered by Yukatekan/Ch'olan Glosses

aj ZU1		i 32M		-tzuk ZS4		áak'äb'/ahk'äb' XH9		ahaw/ajaw AX1	
-al AMB		-i(y)? PH3		-ub'? YSB		áak/ahk AL1		ahaw/ajaw BV1	
-b'u? YSB		-il BV5		-Vm 32U		áak/ahk AL3		ahaw/ajaw BV2	
-el AP3		-il 1G3		-Vw? 2S2		áak/ahk SNN		ahaw/ajaw PT7	
-el 1SC		-il 1M4		-Vw? 1S1		àal/al; á'al/äl MZE		ahaw/ajaw XD4	
-hi APC		-il 1SB		-y ZUH		àal/al? BM4		ahaw/ajaw ZB3	
-hi 1M1		-pih XH3		a-; ah/aj AL2		áayin/ahin AL6		ahaw/ajaw 2M1	
-hi 32K		-pih; pih SB1		àach/at? HM2		ab'ak/ab'äk? YGA		ahaw/ajaw AM1	
-hi 33F		-pih; pih ZC5		àach/at? SS3		ah/aj; -ah? 1G4		ak APH	
-i SCJ		-tak? ZS5		àak'/ak' XH9		ahaw/ajaw AM8		äk' XH9	

äk' YG5		b'éeh/b'ih XGE		ch'amak AP4		ch'uhul; ch'uh PH1		chän SN4	
an?; anum? ZS7		b'ix YG6		ch'é'en/ch'en MB8		cha' 002		chän SN1	
b'aak/b'ak HH1		b'olon 009		ch'é'en/ch'en? BT6		cha' MZ8		chän 004	
b'aak/b'ak HJ1		b'olon PT9		ch'é'en/ch'en? HH2		cha'an? AC1		chapat/chapaht ACK	
b'aak/b'ak SCM		b'uluk/b'uluch PM6		ch'é'en/ch'en? ZC4		cháak/chahk SS1		chèem? ZVF	
b'aak/b'ak SC2		b'uluk/b'uluch PE1		ch'ix? AA5		chäk HJ2		chij AV1	
b'áalam/b'ahläm AT1		b'ux? ZS4		ch'o'/ch'o'(k) APB		chäk 1B9		chitam APH	
b'áalam/b'ahläm PT9		ch'ab'/ch'ahb' PTC		ch'ok HE5		chäm SCC		choh/chok Mzs	
b'aatz'/b'atz? AMH		ch'ab'/ch'ahb' ZYC		ch'ok? ZQB		chan XH3		choj? ATC	
b'äh/b'ä; b'ah AP9		ch'ah 2G2		ch'uhul AMD		chan SB2		chum HT8	
b'äh/b'ä; b'ah XE1		ch'ahom(a) PH8		ch'uhul PED		chan AC6		chum HTA	
b'ak BM8		ch'äk 2M7		ch'uhul YGB		chan ACH		chum? HT9	
b'alaj 1C2		ch'äm MZD		ch'uhul; ch'uh AMC		chan 004		chúuh? ZS4	

chuwen ZE2		ha' ZUP		ho' 005		hul HTE		in- IS2	
chuwen AMK		ha' 33G		hoch'? MR9		hul MRA		itz'at BT8	
éeb'/ehb' ZH5		ha' SS6		hoy/joy? ZB1		hul ZU3		itz'at ZE2	
éeb'/ehb' ZY2		ha'? SS5		hoy/joy? ZY1		hul 1G5		itz'at AMK	
éek' XG8		há'ab'/hab' SB5		hú'un/hun SSC		hùuh/huj AL9		itzamnah SSD	
èek'/ek' ZQD		há'ab'/hab' SS8		hú'un/hun XHB		ii/i BV8		ix- PC1	
éem/ehm? HT4		há'ab'/hab' XH2		hú'un/hun XS2		ii/i YM1		jäl ZQ8	
ehch'ak AT9		há'ab'/hab' SB4		hú'un/hun 1B5		úch'ak AT9		jalal/jälä? ZZ8	
el ZVE		ha'l/häl ZQ9		hú'un/hun? AM3		iiik/ik' XQ6		janab' BT7	
et ZZ5		hix AT1		hub' YSB		iiik/ik' PT3		janab' XGG	
ha' AL2		hix AT7		hub'? ZQE		ik' XG8		jó'ol/jol SC2	
ha' BP1		ho' MZ4		huk ST7		il AL4		joy? ZV1	
ha' XE2		ho' PT5		huk 007		il HE1		jukub'? ZVF	

ju?	ZYD		k'äl/k'äl? HTD		k'awil SSF		k-/kä- AA1		kalom ZX3	
jun	MBA		k'äb' MZ1		k'ayom(a) PC5		k'äh 002		kän SN4	
jun	001		k'äb' MR2		k'i'ix? AA5		k'äh MZ8		kän SN1	
k'a'	BM2		k'äl MR2		k'in/k'in XQ3		k'än XH3		kän 004	
k'a'	XGF		k'äl AX3		k'in/k'in AMK		k'än SB2		k'eeh AV1	
k'a'	BM1		k'äl? ZH8		k'in/k'in SN4		k'än 004		kelem MZB	
k'ä'ah/k'ah?	SSB		k'äm MZD		k'inich SN3		k'äab'/kab' PE1		kiim SCC	
k'ä'ah/k'ah?	ZS9		k'än XQ1		k'uk' BP7		k'äab'/kab' YS1		kitam APH	
k'ä'ah/k'ah?	32P		k'ät XQB		k'uul AMD		k'äh/kah XG2		ko'haw ZD5	
k'ääb'a'/k'ab'a'	ZE1		k'atun SB4		k'uul PED		k'ään AC6		koh? ATC	
k'ääk'/k'ahk	2S6		k'atun SB2		k'uul YGB		k'ään ACH		ku(y)/kuh BT4	
k'äl/k'äl	ZZ1		k'atun SB3		k'uul; k'uh AMC		kalom SCK		kum HT8	
k'äl/k'äl	ZU1		k'atun ZH1		k'uul; k'uh PH1		kalom SS2		kum HTA	

kum? HT9		màax/max AME		muwan BT2		näl 32G		ok/och AP5	
kùuch/kuch? MB3		mam BVD		muyal XGK		näl; nal 2S1		óol/ol XH4	
kùuch/kuch? ZB2		mam SNG		na' PC1		näl; nal PE8		óox PT3	
kùuch/kuch? 32B		man ACL		náab'/nahb' MR5		neh; néen/nehn 1S3		otoch/otot ZY5	
làak/lak ACJ		mas SCL		naab'; nahb' SCA		nik/nich; nikte' XQ2		oxlajun SS6	
làak/lak ZVB		mat BM7		naab'; nahb' XD6		nik/nich? AM1		oxlajun SS4	
làak/lak ZVC		may? AV7		naab'; nahb' 2S3		nik/nich? AM4		oxlajun SS5	
lajka'/lajchän PT2		mix? ZQ4		naab'?: nahb'?: XG7		nùuk/nuk; num? 22F		päkal XD2	
lajun/läjun MB7		mo' BP4		naab'?: nahb'?: XQ9		nùuk/nuk; num? 3M9		päkal XQC	
lajun/läjun SC1		mo' BP5		naab'?: nahb'?: SS5		ok/och ACN		päs MZ2	
lakam ZS8		mu'ut HB1		nah PC1		ok/och MRC		päs SCP	
lok'? AC3		mu'ut PE4		nah IG2		ok/och MZ6		päs ZX2	
ma' 32A		muk SCF		nah ZY5		ok/och MZ7		pät 2G4	

pawah(tun) PT4	sòotz'/sutz' APM	te'; -te 2G1		tùun/tun ZC1	tzúutz/*tzutz APN
pèek'? AP1	t'äb'? ZY1	te'; -te ZZ5		tùup/*tup? ZSG	tzúutz/*tzutz MRB
pèet/pet XG1	ta,tä YM2	tí/ti BV3		tz'ák/tz'ak YS6	u- AA4
puh/puj XH7	ta,tä BV3	tí/ti 3M2		tz'ák/tz'ak ZX6	u- AMF
pul PT1	ta,tä 3M2	tí/ti 3M3		tz'am? XHA	u- AT8
sa' PM1	ta,tä 3M3	tihl; til APG		tz'am? XQ7	u- HE6
sa' 32R	ta,tä; täj 1B1	til MB4		tz'i' AP1	u- PC7
säk MZ8	táan/tan YM3	tòok'/tok' 1C1		tz'ib'/tz'ihb' MR6	u- PE5
säk 3M1	tal YS7	tòok'/tok'? 22E		tzak/tzák MZK	u- YG2
síih/*síh AL8	te' 33C	tóok/tohk 33A		tzih XH5	u- 33D
síih/*síh ZU7	te'; -te ST4	tòon? HM2		tzimin? APG	uch'/uk' PM4
síih/*síh 2S7	te'; -te XGC	tòon? SS3		tzik? 32J	uch? AP5
síih/*síh 3M6	te'; -te YG1	tu 3M4		tzul? AP1	uh SCH

ux PT3		wa' SSL		wi'il 1S1		witz ZC2		yotz HB2	
ux? APM		wáak/wäk PH6		wi'il YG4		wúuk ST7			
uxläjun SS6		wáak/wäk 006		wi'il YS3		wúuk 007			
uxläjun SS4		wáak/wäk 32T		winik ZU2		xíib/xib'?		HT2	
uxläjun SS5		wáay/way AM7		winik hab' SB4		xíib/xib'?		PC4	
uy-/(u)y- PH3		wáay/way AT2		winik hab' SB2		yáax; yäx PT9			
uy-/(u)y- 32M		wáay/way YS8		winik hab' SB3		yáax; yäx ZUJ			
uy-/(u)y- ZUH		wáay/way ZSF		winik hab' ZH1		yäl MZE			
uy-/(u)y- MZC		wáay/way PE4		winik; winal AA7		yaxun? BM1			
uy-/(u)y- MZR		wáay/way? ZUB		winik; winal AM2		yi'ih ZUH			
uy-/(u)y- ZY7		waxak PE8		winik; winal AM9		yo'pat? HM2			
uy-/(u)y- 1SA		wi' 1S1		winik; winal XS1		yo'pat? SS3			
uy-/(u)y- 32D		wi'?		winik? HTD		yotoch/yotot BM3			

### Appendix 3. Signs with Proposed Logographic Values Ordered by English Glosses

agentive AL2		ajaw AM1		arrive 1G5		b'ak'tun XH3		bone HJ1	
agentive 1G4		alligator AL6		artificial 3M1		b'ak'tun SB2		bone SCM	
ajaw AM8		altar? ZC4		artist BT8		banner? ZS8		bone SC2	
ajaw AX1		and then BV8		artist ZE2		bat APM		book SSC	
ajaw BV1		and then YM1		artist AMK		black XG8		book XHB	
ajaw BV2		arm MZ1		ascend? ZY1		bless? ZB1		book XS2	
ajaw PT7		arm MR2		atole PM1		bless? ZY1		book 1B5	
ajaw XD4		arrive HTE		atole 32R		blue PT9		book? AM3	
ajaw ZB3		arrive MRA		b'ak'tun SB1		blue ZUJ		born, be AL8	
ajaw 2M1		arrive ZU3		b'ak'tun ZC5		bone HH1		born, be ZU7	

born, be 2S7		burn APG		cattail XH7		child of mother? BM4		cormorant BM7	
born, be 3M6		burn MB4		cave MB8		claw AT9		maize tassel ZUH	
bottle gourd? ZS4		burn 33A		cave? BT6		close MR2		cotinga? BM1	
breath XQ6		bury SCF		cave? HH2		close AX3		count? 32J	
breath PT3		canoe? ZVF		cave? ZC4		close ZH8		crocodile AL6	
bright 3M1		captive HH1		celt 1M5		cloth SB1		cross XQB	
build 2G4		captive HJ1		censer PH8		cloth ZC5		crown? HM2	
building 1G2		captive SCM		centipede ACK		cloud XGK		crown? SS3	
burden? MB3		captive SC2		ChaaK SS1		companion ZZ5		cut 2M7	
burden? ZB2		carry? MB3		charcoal YGA		complete APN		dawn MZ2	
burden? 32B		carry? ZB2		child of father AM1		complete MRB		dawn SCP	
burn ZVE		carry? 32B		child of father AM4		conch trumpet YSB		dawn ZX2	
burn PT1		carved? ZS7		child of mother MZE		conjure MZK		day-night XQ5	

deer AV1		earth PE1		enter ACN		finish MRB		flower XQ2	
descend? HT4		earth YS1		enter MRC		fire 2S6		flower? AM1	
die SCC		eclipse? XQ5		enter MZ6		first AP9		foot AP5	
dog AP1		egret, snowy BM8		enter MZ7		first XE1		four SN4	
dream AM7		eight PE8		enter AP5		first PT9		four SN1	
dream AT2		elevated XH3		exchange YS6		first PC1		four 004	
dream YS8		elevated SB2		exchange ZX6		first 1G2		fox AP4	
dream ZSF		elevated 004		fall? ZQE		first ZUJ		front, in YM3	
dream PE4		eleven PM6		famous? ZS7		five MZ4		give XH9	
drill? MR9		eleven PE1		fasten MR2		five PT5		give YG5	
drink PM4		end BM2		fasten AX3		five 005		go away YG6	
droplet 2G2		end XGF		fasten? ZH8		flint 1C1		god AMC	
earring? ZSG		end BM1		finish APN		flint? 22E		god PH1	

grandfather BVD	he/she/it AMF	head SC2	holy AMC	image, carved PH1
grandfather SNG	he/she/it AT8	headband SSC	holy PH1	important XH3
great HJ2	he/she/it HE6	headband XS2	hoof? AV7	important SB2
great 1B9	he/she/it PC7	headband 1B5	house 1G2	important 004 oooo
green PT9	he/she/it PES	headband? XHB	house ZY5	in, at YM2
green ZUJ	he/she/it YG2	headband? AM3	house BM3	in, at 1B1
hand MZ1	he/she/it 33D	heart XH4	howler monkey? AMH	in, at BV3
hand MR2	he/she/it MZC	helmet ZD5	hunter? SCK	in, at 3M2
handspan? MR5	he/she/it MZR	heron BM9	hunter? SS2	in, at 3M3
hawk BT2	he/she/it ZY7	hill ZC2	hunter? ZX3	in, at 3M4
he/she/it PH3	he/she/it 1SA	holy AMD	I; my 1S2	injure 2M7
he/she/it ZUH	he/she/it 32D	holy PED	iguana AL9	ink? YGA
he/she/it AA4	he/she/it 32M	holy YGB	image, carved AMC	Itzamnah SSD

jaguar AT1		lake SCA		last YS3		many PT9		nine PT9	
jaguar PT9		lake XD6		leave? AC3		Mars ACD		no, negative 32A	
jaguar AT7		lake 2S3		low YS1		middle, in the YM3		noun suffix AMB	
k'atun SB4		lake? XG7		macaw BP4		mirror 1S3		noun suffix AP3	
k'atun SB3		lake? XQ9		macaw BP5		monkey, howler? AMH		noun suffix 1SC	
k'atun ZH1		lake? SS5		maize 32G		mother PC1		noun suffix BV5	
K'awil SSF		large HJ2		maize 2S1		mountain ZC2		noun suffix 1G3	
k'in XQ3		large 1B9		maize PE8		name ZE1		noun suffix 1M4	
k'in AMK		large ZS8		make 2G4		necklace SCH		noun suffix 1SB	
k'in SN4		large 22F		male? HT2		new XH5		noun suffix 1G4	
lacking 1S1		large 3M9		male? PC4		night XH9		noun suffix YSB	
lacking YG4		last 1S1		manifest ZQ9		night? XQ5		num. classifier ST4	
lacking YS3		last YG4		many 009		nine 009		num. classifier XGC	

num. classifier YG1	owl BT4		penis? SS3		plumeria XQ2		record? ZS9		
num. classifier 2G1	paint MR6		person AA7		plural marker? ZS5		record? 32P		
num. classifier ZZ5	paint? 2S3		person AM2		polish? APM		red HJ2		
num. classifier ZS4	paper SSC		person AM9		portal XH4		red 1B9		
num. classifier XG1	paper XHB		person XS1		pour? ZV1		reed XH7		
num. classifier YS7	paper XS2		pierce? ZYD		precious XQ1		region YS1		
one MBA	paper 1B5		place XG2		puma? ATC		ripe XQ1		
one 001		paper? AM3	plait ZQ8		pyramid ZH4		road XGE		
one PC1		Pawahtun PT4	planet ZQD		quetzal BP7		root 1S1		
open MZ2		peccary APH	plate ZVB		rat APB		root? ZQB		
open SCP		penance, do PTC	plate ZVC		raw XH5		round, make XG1		
open ZX2		penance, do ZYC	platform 1B8		receive MZD		say MZE		
opossum? AP5		penis? HM2		plaza? ZC4		record? SSB		scatter MZS	

scatterer PH8		shield XD2		sleep AM7		sorcerer? ZUB		sprout? ZQB	
scrape? APM		shield XQC		sleep AT2		spear thrower? ZZ8		stairway ZH5	
scribe BT8		since? AC1		sleep YS8		spider monkey AME		stairway ZY2	
scribe ZE2		singer PC5		sleep ZSF		spine? AA5		stand up SSL	
scribe AMK		sit HT8		sleep PE4		spirit being SCL		star ZQD	
sculpt 2G4		sit HTA		snake AC6		spirit companion AM7		stone ZC1	
see AL4		sit? HT9		snake ACH		spirit companion AT2		succession YS6	
see HE1		six PH6		snowy egret BM8		spirit companion YS8		succession ZX6	
self AP9		six 006		sorcerer AM7		spirit companion ZSF		sun-faced SN3	
self XE1		six 32T		sorcerer AT2		spirit companion PE4		tail 1S3	
seven ST7		sky XH3		sorcerer YS8		spirit companion? ZUB		take MZD	
seven 007		sky SB2		sorcerer ZSF		sprout ZUH		tapir APG	
shell trumpet YSB		sky 004		sorcerer PE4		sprout HE5		temple ZH4	

ten							
MB7		town XG2		tree, wood ZZ5		two 002	
ten		town 2S1		tun SB5		two MZ8	
thirteen							
SS6		town PE8		tun SS8		upright PH6	
thirteen							
SS4		transform AM7		tun XH2		upright 006	
thirteen							
SS5		transform AT2		tun SB4		upright 32T	
three							
PT3		transform YS8		turtle AL1		Venus ZQD	
throne							
ZE5		transform ZSF		turtle AL3		verbal suffix APC	
throne							
ZE6		transform PE4		turtle SNN		verbal suffix 1M1	
throne?							
XHA		tree, wood 33C		twelve PT2		verbal suffix 32K	
throne?							
XQ7		tree, wood ST4		twenty ZZ1		verbal suffix 33F	
throw							
MZE		tree, wood XGC		twenty ZU1		verbal suffix SCJ	
time period							
007		tree, wood YG1		twenty ZU2		verbal suffix PH3	
tongue							
XH9		tree, wood 2G1		twenty HTD		verbal suffix 32U	

water 33G		well? BT6		with ZZ5		zero ZQ4	
water SS6		well? HH2		witness AL4		zero? MR3	
water? SS5		well? ZC4		witness HE1			
waterlily SCA		white MZ8		woman PC1			
waterlily XD6		white 3M1		write MR6			
waterlily 2S3		winal AA7		year SB5			
waterlily? XG7		winal AM2		year SS8			
waterlily? XQ9		winal AM9		year XH2			
waterlily? SS5		winal XS1		year SB4			
we; our AA1		wind XQ6		yellow XQ1			
weave [net] ZQ8		wind PT3		you; your AL2			
weave [on loom] ZQ9		wise? 22F		young male MZB			
well MB8		wise? 3M9		zero SN6			

## Appendix 4. T-Number, Code, Gates (1931), Zimmermann (1956), Knorozov (1967)

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T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor	T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor
0001	HE6	324	0001	031	0068	3M7			
0002	ZQD	327	1328b	326	0069	33B	714	0044	009
0004	1G2	324b		030, 420	0070	32A	666	0017	039
0005	ATA				0073	BM2	728	0044a	044
0008	1M4		101		0074	32A	325	0075	069
0011a	HE6				0077	BM2			458
0011b	1G3		419		0079	2G4			
0012	1G4	647	0025	048	0082	1SB			470, 471
0016	ZUJ	070	0024,	164	0083	ZUG			
			1344		0086	2S1	701	0077	066
0017	ZUH	070	0024,	164	0087	2G1	430	0082	065
			1344		0088	1M1			461?
0019	YSA	345	0091,	135	0089	3M4			
			1310		0095	XG8	068	0022	109
0021	YSB	346	1310a	504	0098	ZS1			324
0023	1G1	324	0079	029	0100ab	1B2			
0024	1M4	600	0080	101	0102	1B2			
0025	AA1	322	0081	028	0103a-f	1B1			
0028	ZH1				0106	22F			438
0029	ZX1				0108	2S4			
0036	AMC	669		042	0109	1B9	066	0020	106
0041	AMC	075	0131	224	0110	1BA	321	0032	105
0042	1G8		302		0113	1B1			
0043	AMC		0030	043	0114	XG4		0083	
0044	33A			418	0115	1SA	610	0006	078
0045	1G5				0116	1S2	606	0062	035
0048	1G2				0117	1S1			422
0050	3M1		527		0118	ACC			
0053	3M3	616	0037	064	0120	1S3	643	0087	027
0057	3M6			425	0121	1M2			
0058	3M1	067	0021	061	0122	2S6	638a	0038,	036, 436
0059	3M2	612	0072	059				0040	
0060abdef	1B5	689	0058	068, 434	0124	32J		0045	023
0060c	32K			073	0126	32M	638b	0074	037
0061	32D			440	0128	32P			
0064	PT4	705	0041	071	0130	2S2	609	0076	052, 437
0067	1SF				0134	ZD2			

T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor	T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor
0135acd	32G			008	0211	HE6			429, 430
0136	33F	757	0065, 0078	018	0212	AA5			
0142bc	33K				0214	33C			
0143	33G	752		010	0216	1B3			
0145def	ZUH				0217b	MR4			
0148	1B7			330	0217c	MZ1			
0149ef	22B			083	0218abc	MRB			
0150a	1B1				0218abc	MRB			507
0150bc	1B8			533	0218d	MRC			
0151	3M9				0220ab	MZR			
0152	SSD	003b	0013	082	0220e	MZA			
0153	ZQ9	303	1353	367	0221b	MZ6			
0154	HE1				0221c	MZ7			505
0155a	1SJ	712b	0051	327, 328	0222	MZ2			
0155e	MZF				0223	HTD			
0158	YG4			450	0225	ACE			
0165abd	2M4				0227a	HT4			
0168	2M1	013	0042	100	0229	AL2	607g	0003	053, 428
0170	2M2				0231	AMH			
0173abc	ZQ4		0070b		0232	HE6			
0173d	ZQ3				0233b	MB5			
0174	32B			442	0236	BM1		0751	402, 537
0175	MB4			441	0237	BV8			
0176b	ZC6				0238	BP3	421, 620	0028	077
0177	ZC5				0239	PC6			
0178	AMB	751	0063	015; 016	0240a	BVE			
0181	ZU1	602	0060	034	0240b	SSF			
0182	ZV1				0244	2S3			
0184	SN3			427	0245de	1M5			
0187	ZE1				0249	ZSJ			
0188	1SC				0252	33H			
0191	HE6			426	0255	32U			
0192ab	ZY6				0257	1C1	018	0031	319
0192c	1G7				0263	22F			
0193	ZH5			349	0266a	1G5			
0197	ZY8				0271	32E			
0198	1S3				0272	ZVD			
0200	ZC5				0278	32R			
0203a	AA3			431	0279	BT1			448
0204	AA4			421, 445	0280	BT1			
0206	AC1			446	0281	XQ1	069	0023	170
0207	ACN	605	0026	057	0282	3M9			
0208	SCP				0284	2M2			
0210	AA6	362, 386	0757	322	0287	HE5	708	0050	007
					0291ab	AV5			

T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor	T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor
0291c	34B				0519	HM1			
0294	AV7		444		0520	XS3			
0297	22E				0521	XS1	011	1331	
0299	2S7				0524	AT7	014	1334	185
0301	HTF	433	0104	115	0525	XH6	016	1336	
0314	33F				0526	YS1	017	1337	137
0316	ZE4				0527	XQ8	018	1338	167
0325	ZQE				0528	ZC1	019	1339	143
0327b	AC3	070		348	0529	ZC2			468
0329	MBA				0530	ZC8			
0331	HTE				0533	AM1	020	1320	156
0333	2M7	435	0033	076	0534	AMB	020		157
0335	2S2				0535	AM4			522
0336	22G				0536	AM6	399		310
0338	XV4				0537	PX4	348	1342a	119
0348	3M5				0538	XGH			515
0351	ZX4				0539	AM7			467
0353	BT8				0540	AM2			456
0355	ZX6				0541	XD4			
0358	HTB				0542b	PX4	347,	1342a	119
0361	MZM						348		
0366	3M7				0543	ZZ3			
0367	32T				0544	XQ3	045	1341	172
0368	1C4				0545	XQ5			
0369	AC4				0546	ZVC	045		
0370	ZS4				0547	ZS5			
0501	XE1	001	1360	180	0548	XH2	050	1340	189
0502	XE3		187		0549	ZH2	041	1340a	312
0503	XQ6	002	1322	114	0550	ZH3			
0504	XH9	003	1323	153	0552	XQB	302	1350	168
0505	ACL				0553b	32R			
0506	XH4	004	1324	146	0554	AC2			
0507	XH5	014g	1362	183	0556	XE2			
0508	XG4				0559	ZS4	039,	1355	160
0509	YS8	021	0153	120			349		
0510a	ZQD	008	1328	174	0561	XH3	307,	1345,	191, 194, 195
0510b	ZQD	326	1328a	353			329,	1346,	
0510cd	ZC4						330	1347	
0511	XG1	009	1329	112	0563a	XV1	320	1357	162
0512	ZY7				0563b	33A	306	1348	457
0513	YG2	144	1308b	132	0564	XV2	332	1358	163
0514	ZZ5			520	0565	YM2			
0515	ZY9	145,	1363	286, 287	0566	ACL			463
		301			0568	ZUG	344	1300a,	372
0516ab	YG5							1354	
0518ab	2M1			454	0569	HB1			523

T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor	T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor
0570	HH1		1374		0643	HT6			
0571	HH2				0645	ZSF			
0573	YS6	331	1319	158	0646	XQ2			
0574	ZU8				0647	2S1			
0576	ZUQ				0649	ZUA			
0578	ZUP				0653	ZYD			
0580	XGA	033,	1308a	110, 124, 449	0656	XD3			
		356			0659	XDS			
0582	BPS	357	1301	298	0665	XS2			
0583	XGG				0668	MZ9	077	0169	259
0584	XH1	013	1333	147	0669a	MZ3	023	0166	258
0585ab	XGE	311	1343	122	0669b	MZ3			
0588	SSL	092	0702	315	0670	MZD	427	0161	268
0590a	HJ1			513	0671	MR7	007	0160	266
0590b	HJ1			511	0672	MZ4			502
0592	22F	310	1305	460, 530	0673	MZC			506
0593	XQ7	310	1305	175	0674	ZZ8			
0594	XD2			464	0675	XHD			
0595	ZD2	347	1312	123	0676	YS7	334	1315	166
0596	ZD1			531	0678	ZD5			532
0597	ZUG				0679	YMI	328	1333a	139
0598	HH2				0680	ST7	148	0102	356
0599	HH2				0681	ZUM			
0600	ZQB			526	0683a	ZU2			
0602	XD1			451	0683b	ZU1	059	0147	140
0603	2G2				0684	ZB1			
0604	22B	359	1302	370	0685	ZH4	402		
0606	YM3				0686a	ZV9			
0607	ZUF		1369		0687a	XG3	341	1316	113
0609a	XHA	333	1356	144	0694	BT1			
0609b	XHB				0696	ZSE			
0610	XE6	340	1359	335, 459	0699	ZZA			
0614	ZY5	301,	1306a	148	0700	HTA			524
		707			0701	HT9			525
0615	ZQ8				0702	HTA	370	0103	351
0617	1M2				0703	HT2			
0618	HE3				0704	HT5			
0622	XG3			452	0705	HT1			
0624b	XQC	437	1372	354	0709	YGA			455
0625	XD6	432	1304	177	0710	MZS			509
0627	XGF				0711	MZA		0162	269
0628	ZZ1			521	0712	ZYC			
0630	XV4				0713a	MR2	426	0163	263
0632	XGK	352	1309	300	0713b	MRA			
0634	2G2				0714	MZK	293		272
0638	IC1				0716	HB1			

T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor	T#	Code	Gates	Zimm	Knor
0718	YGB				0778	HB1			
0733	XH8				0779	XH5			
0736ac	SCC	006	0151, 0152	235, 236	0788	AP9			
					0793a	BM7			
0738ab	AA1	293	0758	411, 412, 413, 414, 540	0794	ACD	251	0719	384
					0795	AV6	291	0761	344
0738c	AA4			494, 495	0807	MR3			
0739	SSG			539	0815	32A			
0740	AL8			501	0819	AL4			
0741a	AL1			475	0824	ZSC			
0743	BP1	271	0724, 0725	273, 499	0828	BVC			
					0830	ZQ7			
0744a	BP7				0831	ZSB			
0745	AL2				0832	AT6			536
0746	SB2			486	0834	ATB			
0747a	BV1				0840	MB9			
0747b	BV3	222	0736, 0736a	392	0843	ZY1			
					0844	AL6			
0748	BT2	040, 227	0735	397	0845	AP5			
					0846	SCH			
0749	BT9				0852	SSE			
0750	BT8				0854	XH7			193
0751a	AT1	201, 202	0710	276; 497	0855	007			
					0856	ZUN			
0751b	AT1				1000ab	PC1			
0752	AP3				1000cgi	PT7			
0753	AP2				1003a	PT9			
0754	APH				1003b	PC2			
0755	AMK		0142	479	1004	PM1			
0756ab	APM	029	0722	377, 496	1005	PE1	096	0111	212
0757	AP9	031b, 031d	0708	246	1006a	PE8			
					1006a	PE8			
0758a	APB				1007	PH1			
0758b	APC			498	1008	PC4	072	0129	223
0759	AP7	126, 127	0706	242	1009a	XH9			
					1009b	SN8			
0761	HM2				1009cd	SSD	081	0146	225
0764	AC6			493	1010	SN4	079	0140	229, 478
0765ab	AP5	010	0707	243	1011	SN1			477
0765d	AV3				1013ab	ST8			
0767	ZS8				1013c	ST8			
0768b	HTC			443	1014ac	PT4		0116,	
0769	ZUB							0117	
0772	HT8				1014b	SNB			
0774	XH4				1016ab	AMC	075	0131	224
0776	ZSG				1017	SSJ			490



## Appendix 5. Conflated Signs in Thompson (1962)

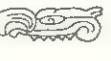
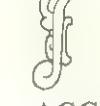
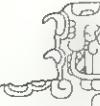
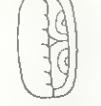
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	T534 + T53		T280 + T178		T32 + T115		T687 + T687
0176a		0179		0180a		0199	
	T61 + T536		T58 + T533		T683 + T534		T58 + T181
0246		0247		0286a		0302	
	T136 + T126		T136 + T126		T1 + T86b.		T130 + T178
0532		0551		0562		0581	
	T515 + T528		T664 + T281		T561 + T299		T580 + T582
0585c		0624a		0626		0629	
	T102 + T585a		T624b + T583		T626 + T281		T683 + T628
0687b		0744b		0756c		0756d	
	T687a + T582		T744a + T582		T568 + T756		T528 + T756
0758c		0762		0818		0847	
	T526 + T758b		T751 + T764		T653 + T568		T501 + T2
0848		0850		1028a		1041	
	T158 + T644		T95 + T281		T1011 + ?		T679 + T1042

## Glossary

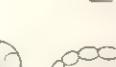
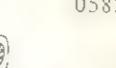
<i>acrophony</i>	the process of deriving syllabic values by using only the beginning of the word for the image depicted by the sign. In the Maya script this is always the first consonant and vowel (e.g., <b>ka</b> from <i>*kay</i> 'fish').
<i>affix</i>	a sign that is attached to another sign.
<i>allograph</i>	a variant of a sign (i.e., one that has an equivalent logographic or syllabic value).
<i>allophone</i>	a nonsignificant variant of a single phoneme (i.e., <i>r</i> and <i>l</i> in a language that has only one liquid consonant).
<i>b'ak'tun</i>	a period of 400 tuns.
<i>bound morpheme</i>	a morpheme that cannot occur alone (e.g., <i>-ing</i> in English).
<i>calendrical sign</i>	a sign associated with a temporal period.
<i>cognate</i>	a word related to another by having been derived historically from a common protolanguage.
<i>consonant-vowel</i>	
<i>(CV) combination</i>	the phonetic shape of syllabic signs in the Maya script (e.g., <b>le</b> ).
<i>disharmony</i>	the spelling of a CVC root with two syllabic signs, the second of which does not have the same vowel as the root (e.g., <b>b'a-ki</b> for <i>b'ak</i> 'bone').
<i>elaboration personification</i>	adding facial features to a sign to make it appear to be the head of a person or animal.
<i>emblem glyph</i>	a title associated with a particular city, region, or lineage. Typically begins with <i>k'uhul</i> 'holy' and ends with <i>ajaw</i> 'lord, ruler'.
<i>free morpheme</i>	a morpheme that can occur alone; a word.
<i>GI, GII, GIII</i>	a series of deities first identified at the site of Palenque.
<i>glottal fricative</i>	the sound of <i>h</i> in English <i>hot</i> .
<i>glyger</i>	a reoccurring combination of signs that has the same value.
<i>glyph block</i>	a unit of the Maya script, composed of one to four or more signs, representing a syllable, a word, or a phrase.
<i>glyph C</i>	a glyph recording the number of lunations ended within a repeating cycle of six lunations.
<i>glyph G1, G2, etc.</i>	a sequence of nine glyphs, used to record a nine day cycle, often associated with the Aztec "nine lords of the night."
<i>glyph X</i>	a series of six signs (and their variants) that names a sequence of six lunations.
<i>glyph Y</i>	a sign that records a seven-day cycle.
<i>grapheme</i>	the minimal functional unit of a script.
<i>grapholect</i>	a customary manner of writing associated with a particular region or period.
<i>haab'</i>	literally 'year'; in Maya studies it refers to a year of 365 days, but it was used by the ancient Maya for periods of 365 or 360 days.

<i>haab' patron</i>	a sign appearing in an initial series introductory glyph that varies according to the twenty-day month of the date recorded (e.g., the patron of Yax is the Venus sign).
<i>kalab' tun</i>	a period of 160,000 tuns.
<i>k'atun</i>	a period of 20 tuns.
<i>k'inchiltun</i>	a period of 3,200,000 tuns.
<i>lexical inventory</i>	a word list.
<i>liquid</i>	the sounds <i>r</i> and <i>l</i> and their variants.
<i>logograph</i>	a sign that represents an entire word.
<i>logo-syllabic script</i>	a mixed script that has both logographic and syllabic signs.
<i>long count</i>	the count of days from the beginning of the current era, recorded in a modified vigesimal format.
<i>morpheme</i>	a word or a part of a word that has a specific meaning (e.g., <i>dog</i> or <i>-ness</i> in English).
<i>morphology</i>	the study of word formation.
<i>phoneme</i>	a distinctive sound in a language (e.g., <i>l</i> and <i>r</i> are distinctive sounds in English).
<i>phoneticism</i>	the representation of speech sounds divorced from semantic content in a system of visual communication.
<i>phonetics</i>	the study of the sounds of language.
<i>phonology</i>	the study of the sound systems of languages.
<i>piktun</i>	a period of 8,000 tuns.
<i>proto-Ch'olan, etc.</i>	a proto-language is the original language from which a related group of languages descended.
<i>rebus</i>	the use of the image of an object for a similar-sounding word (e.g., a drawing of a bee for the word <i>be</i> ).
<i>subgraphemic</i>	refers to a visual element smaller than a grapheme.
<i>substitution personification</i>	the substitution of the head or figure of a person or animal not visually related to the original sign.
<i>suffix</i>	a morpheme added to the end of a word.
<i>syllabic sign</i>	a phonetic sign that represents a syllable.
<i>synharmony</i>	the spelling of a CVC root with two syllabic signs, the second of which has the same vowel as the root (e.g., <b>b'a-ka</b> for <i>b'ak</i> 'bone').
<i>tun</i>	a period of 360 days.
<i>velar fricative</i>	an <i>h</i> -like sound with a velar constriction, similar to <i>j</i> in Spanish <i>Juan</i> .

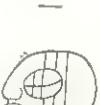
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AC7 —	—	ACA —	ACB 1021	ACC 0118	ACD 0794	ACE 0225	ACF —	ACG —
								
ACH —	—	—	—	—	ACL 0566	ACL 0505	ACM —	ACN 0207
								
ACN —	AL1 0741a	AL2 0229	AL2 —	AL2 0745	AL3 —	AL3 —	AL3 —	AL4 0819
								
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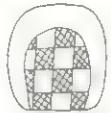
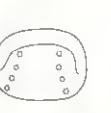
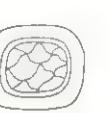
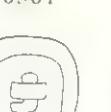
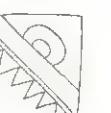
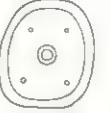
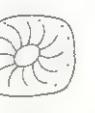
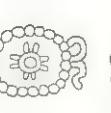
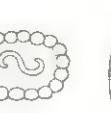
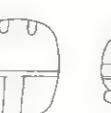
								
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<b>AMJ</b> —	<b>AMK</b> 0755	<b>AP1</b> —	<b>AP2</b> 0753	<b>AP3</b> 0752	<b>AP4</b> —	<b>AP5</b> 0765ab	<b>AP5</b> 0845	<b>AP7</b> 0759
								
<b>AP9</b> 0757	<b>AP9</b> 0788	<b>APB</b> 0758a	<b>APC</b> 0758b	<b>APD</b> —	<b>APE</b> —	<b>APF</b> —	<b>APG</b> —	<b>APH</b> 0754
								
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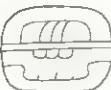
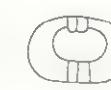
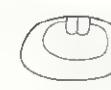
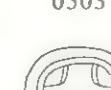
								
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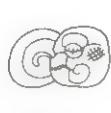
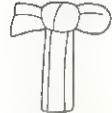
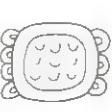
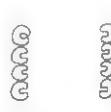
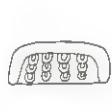
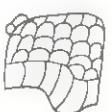
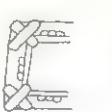
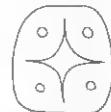
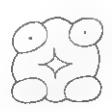
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<b>MRC</b> 0218d	<b>MRD</b> —	<b>MRE</b> —	<b>MZ1</b> 0217c	<b>MZ2</b> 0222	<b>MZ2</b> —	<b>MZ2</b> —	<b>MZ3</b> 0669b	<b>MZ3</b> 0669a
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<b>PT4</b> 0064	<b>PT5</b> —	<b>PT7</b> 1000cg1	<b>PT8</b> —	<b>PT9</b> 1003a	<b>PTB</b> 1075	<b>PTC</b> —	<b>PTD</b> —	<b>PX1</b> —

								
<b>PX2</b> —	<b>PX3</b> —	<b>PX3</b> —	<b>PX4</b> 0537	<b>PX4</b> 0542b	<b>PX5</b> —	<b>SB1</b> 1033	<b>SB2</b> 0746	<b>SB3</b> —
								
<b>SB4</b> 1034	<b>SB5</b> —	<b>SB6</b> —	<b>SB8</b> —	<b>SB9</b> —	<b>SC1</b> —	<b>SC2</b> 1040	<b>SC3</b> 1042	<b>SC4</b> —
								
<b>SC5</b> 1048	<b>SC6</b> —	<b>SC7</b> —	<b>SC8</b> 1046	<b>SC9</b> —	<b>SCA</b> —	<b>SCB</b> —	<b>SCC</b> 0736ac	<b>SCC</b> 1081
								
<b>SCE</b> 1049	<b>SCF</b> —	<b>SCF</b> —	<b>SCG</b> 1079	<b>SCH</b> 0846	<b>SCH</b> —	<b>SCJ</b> —	<b>SCK</b> —	<b>SCL</b> —
								
<b>SCM</b> 1045	<b>SCN</b> —	<b>SCP</b> 0208	<b>SN1</b> 1011	<b>SN2</b> —	<b>SN3</b> —	<b>SN3</b> 0184	<b>SN4</b> 1010	<b>SN5</b> —
								
<b>SN6</b> —	<b>SN7</b> —	<b>SN8</b> 1009b	<b>SN9</b> —	<b>SNA</b> —	<b>SNB</b> 1014b	<b>SNC</b> —	<b>SNG</b> —	<b>SNH</b> —
								
<b>SNJ</b> —	<b>SNL</b> —	<b>SNM</b> —	<b>SNN</b> 1018a	<b>SS1</b> 1030q	<b>SS2</b> 1030lmn	<b>SS3</b> 1030ijk	<b>SS4</b> 1031b	<b>SS5</b> 1032
								
<b>SS6</b> 1031a	<b>SS6</b> —	<b>SS7</b> —	<b>SS8</b> 1031cd	<b>SS9</b> —	<b>SSA</b> —	<b>SSB</b> —	<b>SSC</b> 1030o	<b>SSD</b> 1009cd

								
YSA 0019	—	YSB 0021	YSB	ZB1 0684	ZB2	—	ZC1 0528	ZC1 1030p
								
ZC2 0529	—	ZC4 0510cd	—	—	ZC5 0177	ZC5 0200	ZC6 0176b	ZC7 —
								
ZC8 0530	ZD1 0596	ZD2 0595	ZD2 0134	ZD4 —	ZD5 0678	ZD6 —	ZE1 0187	ZE1 —
								
ZE1 1060a	—	—	ZE4 0316	—	ZE6 —	ZH1 —	ZH1 0028	ZH2 0549
								
ZH3 0550	ZH4 0685	ZH5 0193	ZH6 —	ZH7 —	ZH8 —	ZH8 —	ZH8 —	ZQ1 —
								
—	ZQ3 0173d	—	0173abc	—	—	ZQ7 0830	ZQ8 0615	ZQ8 —
								
ZQ9 0153	ZQB 0600	ZQC —	ZQD 0510a	ZQD 0510b	ZQD 0002	ZQD —	ZQD —	ZQE 0325
								
—	—	—	ZS1 0098	ZS1 —	ZS2 —	ZS4 0559	ZS4 0370	ZS5 0547



ZY1 0843	ZY2 —	ZY3 —	ZY3 —	ZY5 0614	ZY5 —	ZY6 0192ab	ZY7 0512	ZY7 —
ZY8 0197	ZY9 0515	ZYA —	ZYB —	ZYC 0712	ZYC —	ZYD 0653	ZZ1 0628	ZZ1 —
ZZ1 —	ZZ2 —	ZZ3 0543	ZZ4 —	ZZ5 0514	ZZ6 —	ZZ7 —	ZZ8 0674	ZZ8 —
ZZ9 —	ZZA 0699	ZZB —	ZZC —	001 I	002 II	004 IV	005 V	006 VI
007 0855	009 IX	1B1 0113	1B1 0103a-f	1B1 0150a	1B2 0102	1B2 —	1B2 0100ab	1B3 0216
1B5 0060abdef	1B6 —	1B7 0148	1B7 —	1B8 0150bc	1B8 —	1B9 0109	1BA 0110	1C1 0257
1C1 —	1C1 —	1C1 0638	1C2 —	1C3 —	1C4 0368	1C5 —	1G1 0023	1G2 0004
1G2 0048	1G2 —	1G3 0011b	1G4 0012	1G5 0045	1G5 0266a	1G6 —	1G7 0192c	1G8 0042

<b>1G8</b> —	<b>1M1</b> 0088	<b>1M2</b> 0121	<b>1M2</b> 0617	<b>1M3</b> —	<b>1M4</b> 0024	<b>1M4</b> 0008	<b>1M5</b> 0245de	<b>1S1</b> 0117
<b>1S2</b> 0116	<b>1S2</b> 1019	<b>1S3</b> 0120	<b>1S3</b> 0198	<b>1S6</b> —	<b>1S9</b> —	<b>1SA</b> 0115	<b>1SB</b> 0082	<b>1SC</b> 0188
<b>1SC</b> —	<b>1SE</b> —	<b>1SF</b> 0067	<b>1SH</b> —	<b>1SJ</b> 0155a	<b>22A</b> —	<b>22B</b> 0604	<b>22B</b> 0149ef	<b>22C</b> —
<b>22D</b> —	<b>22E</b> 0297	<b>22F</b> 0106	<b>22F</b> 0592	<b>22F</b> —	<b>22F</b> 0263	<b>22G</b> 0336	<b>2G1</b> 0087	<b>2G1</b> —
<b>2G2</b> —	<b>2G2</b> 0603	<b>2G2</b> 0634	<b>2G3</b> —	<b>2G4</b> 0079	<b>2G4</b> —	<b>2M1</b> 0168	<b>2M1</b> 0518ab	<b>2M2</b> 0170
<b>2M2</b> 0284	<b>2M3</b> —	<b>2M4</b> 0165abd	<b>2M6</b> —	<b>2M7</b> 0333	<b>2M8</b> —	<b>2S1</b> 0086	<b>2S1</b> —	<b>2S1</b> 0647
<b>2S2</b> 0130	<b>2S2</b> 0335	<b>2S3</b> 0244	<b>2S3</b> —	<b>2S4</b> 0108	<b>2S5</b> —	<b>2S6</b> 0122	<b>2S6</b> —	<b>2S6</b> 1035
<b>2S7</b> 0299	<b>32A</b> 0074	<b>32A</b> 0815	<b>32A</b> 0070	<b>32B</b> 0174	<b>32C</b> —	<b>32D</b> 0061	<b>32E</b> 0271	<b>32E</b> —

